



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 28 September 2012**

**11893/12**

**LIMITE**

**PV CONS 41**

**DRAFT MINUTES <sup>1</sup>**

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Subject: **3180th** meeting of the Council of the European Union (**GENERAL AFFAIRS**)  
held in Luxembourg on 26 June 2012

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<sup>1</sup> Information on Council legislative deliberations, on other cases of Council deliberations open to the public and on public debates may be found in Addendum 1 to these minutes.

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1. **Adoption of the provisional agenda**  
11664/1/12 REV 1 OJ/CONS 41

The Council adopted the agenda as set out in doc. 11664/12 REV 1.

**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**

2. **Enlargement - Montenegro**
- a) **Draft Council conclusions**  
11725/12 ELARG 69 COWEB 103
  - b) **Draft General EU Position**  
11726/12 ELARG 70
  - c) **Draft Procedure for accession negotiations with Montenegro (internal arrangements)**  
11727/12 ELARG 71

The Council examined Montenegro's progress in the implementation of reforms, as requested by the European Council in December 2011. Most delegations intervened, welcoming the compromise proposals presented by the Presidency for the Council conclusions and for the negotiating framework as part of the General EU position for the accession negotiations with Montenegro.

The Council decided, subject to endorsement by the European Council, that accession negotiations should be opened on 29 June 2012. The Council also adopted Council conclusions as set out in doc. 11900/12, the General EU position as set out in doc. 11896/12, and the Procedure for accession negotiation with Montenegro as set out in doc. 11903/12.

The Council also had an exchange of views on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

## **LEGISLATIVE DELIBERATIONS**

*(public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)*

### **3. Cohesion policy legislative package [First Reading]**

- Elements of a partial general approach  
11027/1/12 REV 1 FSTR 53 FC 32 REGIO 85 SOC 538 AGRISTR 83  
PECHE 212 CADREFIN 297 CODEC 1583  
+ ADD 1 REV 1 to ADD 4 REV 1  
+ ADD 5

#### **The Council**

- reached an agreement, subject to the principle that "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed", on the following elements for a partial general approach concerning:
  - a) thematic concentration, as set out in ADD 1 REV 2 to doc. 11027/1/12 REV 1;
  - b) financial instruments, as set out in ADD 2 REV 1;
  - c) net revenue generating operations and public private partnerships, as set out in ADD 3 REV 1 and
  - d) the performance framework, as set out in ADD 4 REV 1.
- decided to enter into its minutes the statements set out in Addendum 5 REV 2 to doc. 11027/1/12 REV 1.

### **4. New Multiannual Financial Framework**

- Orientation debate / certain issues  
**11826/12 CADREFIN 333 POLGEN 120**  
11539/12 CADREFIN 322 POLGEN 115

In the context of discussion on the future multiannual financial framework, the Council had the last exchange of views on the Negotiating Box under the Danish Presidency.

**5. Approval of the list of “A” items**

11665/12 PTS A 63  
+ ADD 1

The Council approved the “A” items as listed listed in:

i) **11665/12**

ii) **11665/12 ADD 1 + ADD 1 REV 1 (fr)**

8. a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Venture Capital Funds (EuVECA) **[First reading] (LA)**  
b) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Social Entrepreneurship Funds (EuSEF) **[First reading] (LA)**  
- General approach  
11760/1/12 REV 1 EF 150 ECOFIN 633 COMPET 461 IND 112  
SOC 602 CODEC 1747  
approved by Coreper, Part 1, on 26.06.2012

**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**

**6. Approval of the list of “A” items**

11668/12 PTS A 64

The Council approved the “A” items as listed listed in 11668/12.

The documents of items 11, 14 and 15 should read as follows:

**Item 11:** 10054/12 FSTR 41 POLGEN 88 REGIO 64 FC 26 ECOFIN 417 ENV 372  
TRANS 166 PECH 171 RECH 156 JAI 340 COEST 156 ENER 178  
MI 344 MAR 66 COMPET 288 AGRI 325  
+ COR 1 (de)  
+ ADD 1  
+ ADD 1 COR 1 **(en)**  
+ ADD 2

**Item 14:** 11169/12 UD 154 AELE 40 OC 307  
+ COR 1 **(en)**

**Item 15:** 11170/12 UD 155 AELE 41 OC 308  
+ COR 1 **(en)**  
+ **COR 2 (hu)**

**7. Resolutions, opinions and decisions adopted by the European Parliament at its parts of session**

**a) Strasbourg, from 21 to 24 May 2012**

10426/12 PE-RE 7

**b) Strasbourg, from 11 to 14 June 2012**

11254/12 PE-RE 8

The Council took note of the resolutions, decisions and opinions adopted by the European Parliament at its above mentioned part-sessions, which have been or would be taken into consideration when the relevant issues were examined.

**8. Preparation of the European Council 28-29 June 2012**

**a) European Semester - Approval of integrated Country specific recommendations and transmission to European Council**

11321/2/12 REV 2 UEM 231 ECOFIN 606 SOC 581 COMPET 449 ENV 550  
EDUC 222 RECH 285 ENER 315

11296/2/12 REV 2 UEM 230 ECOFIN 604 SOC 580 COMPET 448 ENV 545  
EDUC 221 RECH 284 ENER 314

11735/12 UEM 236 ECOFIN 629 SOC 599 COMPET 458 ENV 570 EDUC 227  
RECH 298 ENER 324

**b) Draft European Council conclusions**

9429/12 CO EUR-PREP 16

The Council had an exchange of views on the latest version of the June European Council conclusions, as set out in doc. 9429/12. A revised version of the draft conclusions will be issued after the Council in view of the discussions at the European Council.

**9. Any Other Business**

ES informed partners that the Spanish Olympic Committee had decided to fly both the Spanish and the EU flags in its London headquarters (“Casa de España”) during the Olympics.

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**STATEMENTS FOR THE COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Ad "A" item 3:**     **Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Turkey on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation**

**STATEMENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION**

"The UK attaches significant importance to ensuring a continuing dialogue and broader partnership working with Turkey in the areas of Justice and Home Affairs. While the UK has not notified the President of the Council of its intention to participate in the readmission agreement between Turkey and the EU, we note the necessity to conclude the discussions. Our intention is to not prolong the discussion and therefore we are – in this instance - agreeing to the adoption of this Decision before the three month period as set out in Article 3 of Protocol 21 on the position of the United Kingdom and Ireland in respect of the area of Freedom, Security and Justice annexed to the Treaty on European Union. We welcome the commitment on both sides to signing the readmission agreement."

**STATEMENT BY IRELAND**

"Ireland notes that this proposal was presented to Council on 22 June 2012 and that the Council is making a decision on that proposal on 26 June 2012 which is less than 3 months after presentation of the proposal to the Council.

Ireland will not insist, in this instance, upon its right to have 3 months within which to exercise an option to notify the President of the Council of its wish to participate in the adoption and application of the Council Decision on the signing of the Agreement in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of Protocol 21 on the Position of the United Kingdom and Ireland in respect of the area of Freedom, Security and Justice annexed to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Ireland welcomes recital 3 of the Council Decision."

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