



Council of the
European Union

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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Economic and Financial Affairs)
7 December 2021

CONTENTS

Page

Non-legislative activities

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 8. | Implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility..... | 3 |
| 9. | European Semester 2022 Annual Sustainable Growth Survey 2022, Alert Mechanism Report 2022 and Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area..... | 3 |
| 10. | 2021 Annual Report of the European Fiscal Board..... | 3 |
| 11. | Code of Conduct (Business taxation)..... | 3 |
| | a) Conclusions on the progress achieved by the Code of Conduct (Business Taxation) Group | |
| | b) Resolution on a revised Code of Conduct | |
| 12. | Follow-up to the adoption of the budget for 2022..... | 4 |
| 13. | Any other business..... | 4 |
| | ANNEX - Statements for the Council minutes..... | 5 |

Non-legislative activities

8. Implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility

State of play

Exchange of views

The Council was informed about the state of play of the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and had an exchange of views on this issue.

9. European Semester 2022

14145/21

Annual Sustainable Growth Survey 2022, Alert Mechanism Report 2022 and Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area

14143/21 + ADD 1

14146/21 + ADD 1

Presentation by the Commission

The Council was informed about the Annual Sustainable Growth Survey 2022, the Alert Mechanism Report 2022, and the Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area.

10. 2021 Annual Report of the European Fiscal Board

14315/21

Presentation

The Council had an exchange of views on the 2021 Annual Report of the European Fiscal Board.

11. Code of Conduct (Business taxation)

a) Conclusions on the progress achieved by the Code of Conduct (Business Taxation) Group

14653/21

b) Resolution on a revised Code of Conduct

14643/21

Approval

The final text of the Council conclusions set out in 14814/21 was adapted in the light of the discussion on the revision of the Code of Conduct. The Council could not approve a revised 'Code of Conduct for business taxation'.

12. Follow-up to the adoption of the budget for 2022

Information from the Presidency

The Council unanimously agreed on the unilateral statement by the Council on the European Parliament's own section of the budget and agreed to record it in the Council minutes.

13. Any other business

No issues were raised under this item.

Statements to the non-legislative "B" items set out in doc. 14581/21**Ad "B" item 12:**

Follow-up to the adoption of the budget for 2022
Information from the Presidency

UNILATERAL STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL ON THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S OWN SECTION OF THE BUDGET

“The Council underlines that the ceiling for Heading 7 of the Multiannual Financial Framework is founded on the premise that all EU institutions adopt a comprehensive and targeted approach for stabilizing the number of staff and reduce administrative expenditure. The request of the European Parliament to add 142 posts to its Establishment Plan, as well as 180 external staff is therefore not in line with the spirit of the MFF agreement.

The Council further notes that in light of the DB 2020 conciliation agreement, the posts for "Passerelle" competitions were to be removed from the Establishment Plan in 2022.

The treatment of the estimates of expenditure of the European Parliament and of the Council are based on the idea of mutual trust for which the Council expects from the European Parliament the necessary transparency when establishing its needs and providing the motivation thereof. The Council therefore regrets that the European Parliament refuses to justify the additional staff requested to European citizens.

Finally, the Council notes that the evolution in the number of staff in the institutions should not undermine the interinstitutional balance among them and calls on the Commission to make use of the provisions in Art. 314(1) of TFEU.”
