



Council of the
European Union

**Brussels, 12 November 2014
(OR. en)**

14812/14

CRS/CRP 43

SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 2516th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 28, 30 and 31 October 2014

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Duties of the Presidency of the EU Council
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Gender ideology: activities of the Italian Presidency of the Council
 - c) E-006402/2014 - James Carver (EFDD)
European Union military staff
 - d) E-006404/2014 - James Carver (EFDD)
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 - e) E-006414/2014 - Marc Tarabella (S&D)
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Approval of Council Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014
 - g) E-006888/2014 - Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)
Suicide prevention policies
35. Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work
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36. Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work
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40. Commission Decision of XXX authorising France to derogate pursuant to Article 14(6) of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council from certain common aviation safety rules concerning supplemental oxygen dispensing units and outlets in an aeroplane passenger compartment
41. Commission Regulation (EU) No .../.. of XXX on the technical specification for interoperability relating to the telematics applications for freight subsystem of the rail system in the European Union and repealing the Regulation (EC) No 62/2006

42. Commission Regulation (EU) No .../.. of XXX amending Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein
43. Preparation for the 203rd session of the ICAO Council
 - European Union coordination of a common position
47. Proposal for a Council Directive adapting Directive 2013/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council by reason of the accession of Croatia
48. Proposal for a Council Regulation adjusting, from 1 July 2011, 1 July 2012 and 1 July 2013, the rate of contribution to the pension scheme of officials and other servants of the European Union
49. Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Committee on Cultural Cooperation set up by the Protocol on cultural cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Korea, of the other part, as regards the establishment of a list of 15 arbitrators

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1. Adoption of the provisional agenda and "I" items

doc. 14735/14 OJ/CRP1 37 + COR 1
14734/1/14 REV 1 OJ/CRP2 37

The above-mentioned agendas are approved with the following changes :

The following item is **added** :

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

33. EUFOR RCA - Adaptation of the OPLAN and ROEAUTH to reflect the mandate extension

14813/14 CSDP/PSDC 610 PESC 1107 COAFR 301 RELEX 869 CONUN 172

EUFOR RCA 47

- **Draft OPLAN EUFOR RCA**
- **Draft ROE Authorisation EUFOR RCA**

The following items are **withdrawn** :

(Coreper Part 1, under I)

44. Proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on the Union's behalf in the relevant Committees of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe as regards the proposals for amendments to UN Regulations Nos. 4, 6, 11, 13, 13H, 19, 25, 34, 37, 43, 44, 48, 53, 70, 96, 98, 104, 105, 106, 107, 112, 113, 121, 128, on the new UN Global Technical Regulation on tyres, on Amendment 3 to UN GTR No 4 with regard to the Worldwide Heavy-Duty Certification Procedure and on an amendment to Mutual Resolution No 1

– **Adoption**

14252/14 ECO 129 ENT 229 MI 769 UNECE 8

+ ADD 1

14253/14 ECO 130 ENT 230 MI 770 UNECE 9

45. Proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on the Union's behalf in the Administrative Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on the draft new Regulation on hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles

– **Adoption**

14254/14 ECO 131 ENT 231 MI 771 UNECE 10

14255/14 ECO 132 ENT 232 MI 772 UNECE 11

46. Proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on the Union's behalf in the Administrative Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on the draft new Regulation on pole side impact and on the draft amendments to the new Regulation on pole side impact

– **Adoption**

14257/14 ECO 133 ENT 233 MI 773 UNECE 12

14258/14 ECO 134 ENT 234 MI 774 UNECE 13

(Coreper Part 2, under II)

28. Partnership Agreement on Relations and Cooperation between the European Union and New Zealand (PARC)

13471/14 COASI 118 ASIE 59 NZ 1 POLGEN 132

The Committee approved the "I" items as set out in the summary. Details are contained in the document quoted under item 1.

NL made a statement on the following item:

48. Proposal for a Council Regulation adjusting, from 1 July 2011, 1 July 2012 and 1 July 2013, the rate of contribution to the pension scheme of officials and other servants of the European Union

– **Adoption**

14537/14 STAT 24 FIN 760

14260/14 STAT 23 FIN 739

"The Netherlands have serious concerns about the long-term financial sustainability of the EU pension system, as it does not regard a notional fund the right approach for preparing for the increasing costs that the EU budget will incur. We therefore abstain from voting, as we have done in the past."

Coreper Part 2

II

2. Follow-up to the European Council (23/24 October 2014)

The Committee took note of the follow-up the Council will give to the orientations set by the October EC.

3. Draft Amending Budget No 6/2014

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Commission on the revision of the VAT and GNI own resources balances for the years 1995 to 2013 and on draft amending budget No 6 to the general budget for 2014. After an exchange of views, the President suggested to include the issue of VAT and GNI own resources balances on the agenda of the ECOFIN Council meeting on 7 November 2014.

4. Follow-up to the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 20 October 2014

The Committee took note of the proceedings of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) meeting of 20 October 2014.

5. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs and Defence) on 17/18 November 2014

EEAS ESG Pierre Vimont presented the provisional agenda for the November FAC/Defence, subject to confirmation by the new HR.

FAC on 17 November

Start at 9h30, finish at 16h30.

Side events: Association Councils with Georgia, Chili, and (poss.) Kyrgyzstan.

Lunch: HR likely to present her priorities and working methods for FACs.

Council conclusions confirmed so far: Ebola, Ukraine and South Sudan.

Provisional agenda:

- **Ebola outbreak:** Follow up to the EC tasking and to ongoing work on political, security and economic implications.
- **Ukraine:** Focus on EU's contribution to the OSCE Mission, the humanitarian dimension and how the EU can support the political process and necessary political reforms in the aftermath of the parliamentary elections.
- **Iraq/Syria/ISIL:** Focus on the humanitarian situation and support to the neighbouring countries (in particular Lebanon but also Jordan and Turkey) and on the political outreach to the countries in the region (Turkey, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Russia). The HR would also inform on the state of play of a comprehensive EU strategy, currently being prepared by the EEAS.
- **MEPP:** Focus on the EU contribution for the reconstruction of Gaza and on the role of EUBAM Rafah and EUPOL COPPS as well as on the state of play of the MEPP.

Two delegations requested the adoption of Council conclusions on the MEPP.

Three delegations requested a discussion on BiH.

One delegation requested a discussion on the situation in Libya.

Defence Council on 18 November

Start at 10h30, finish after lunch. The Council would be preceded by the EDA Steering Board meeting to discuss the implementation of EC conclusions on CSDP of December 2013.

Provisional agenda:

- Adoption of the EDA budget
- Update on EU military missions
- Security situation in the broader EU neighbourhood (focus on Ukraine and ISIL)
- Use of military assets in the Ebola crisis
- Outlook for CSDP (foreseen mid-term report in June 2015)

6. Ukraine/Russia - sanctions review (*restricted session*)

The Committee conducted a review of the restrictive measures as foreseen by Council Decision 2014/512/CFSP of 31 July 2014. The European External Action Service presented its assessment of the political and security situation on the ground, while the Commission gave a presentation of the impact of sanctions on the economies of the EU, its Member States and Russia. Following the discussion, the Committee agreed that there were no grounds to amend the sanctions regime for the time being and that the Committee would remain seized of the issue.

27. 10th ASEM Summit (Milan, 16/17 October 2014)
– **Debriefing and follow-up**

The Committee was debriefed by the EEAS and the Commission on the outcome of the 10th Asia-Europe meeting (16-17 October 2014, Milan). It was a successful Summit which conveyed a strong message of commitment for cooperation between Asia and Europe. The Summit highlighted connectivity as a major area for cooperation and promoted greater convergence on economic, financial and global issues, as well as regional and international issues.

29. Follow-up to the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 21 October 2014

The Committee took note of the outcomes of the October General Affairs Council in particular :

- the draft conclusions of the EC on 23/24 October 2014;
- the progress in the implementation of the orientations set out by the EC in the Chapter on Freedom, Security and Justice of the Strategic agenda, notably as regards, foreign fighters and PNR;
- the state of play of the application of Article 10 of Protocol 36 to the Treaties;
- the discussion on the composition of the Committee of the Regions;
- the Commission's 2015 Annual Work Programme.

30. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 18/19 November 2014

The Committee took note of the issues, which will be discussed in the November General Affairs Council:

- Preparation of the EC on 18/19 December 2014 (ADA)
- Rule of Law Initiative
- Follow-up to the EC of June 2014 (Strategic Agenda priorities - Energy)
- Strengthening interinstitutional annual and multiannual programming
- Cohesion policy

31. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs/Budget) on 14 November 2014

The Committee approved the draft provisional agenda of the ECOFIN/Budget Council and took note of practical arrangements for the conduct of proceedings of the Conciliation Committee meeting on the same day.

32. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 7 November 2014

a) Financial Transaction Tax

- **Proposal for a Council Directive implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of Financial Transaction Tax**
= **State of play**
14576/14 FISC 168 ECOFIN 952

The Committee prepared the ECOFIN discussion (doc. 14949/14), on the basis of a Presidency Progress Report.

b) Standard VAT return

- **Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value-added tax, as regards a standard VAT return**
= **Orientation debate**
14578/14 FISC 169 ECOFIN 955
14580/14 FISC 170 ECOFIN 956
+ ADD 1

Due to the significantly diverging views expressed at the Committee, the Presidency decided not to hold an orientation debate at the ECOFIN Council. Instead, there would be an Information Note from the Presidency on the state of play (doc. 14716/14) which would be briefly presented under any other legislative business.

c) Parent Subsidiaries Directive

- **Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2011/96/EU on the common system of taxation applicable in the case of parent companies and subsidiaries of different Member States**
= **Political agreement**
14531/14 FISC 165 ECOFIN 953
14532/14 FISC 166 ECOFIN 954

The Committee discussed the Presidency's compromise text with the aim of submitting it for political agreement to the Council (docs 14531/1/14 REV 1 and 14950/14).

- d) EU statistics**
 - **Council conclusions**
13845/14 ECOFIN 874 STATIS 111 UEM 348

The Committee endorsed the draft Council conclusions on EU statistics, prepared by the EFC on October 28.

- e) Climate finance**
 - **Preparation of the 20th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Lima from 1 to 12 December 2014**
 - = **Council conclusions**
13844/14 ECOFIN 873 ENV 845 ENER 434

The Committee endorsed, with minor changes, the draft Council conclusions on Climate Finance, in view of the December UNFCCC COP20 meeting in Lima. The Council conclusions were prepared by the EFC on October 28.

f) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

Presidency updated delegations on the agenda of the upcoming ECOFIN Council. A new item on the revision of VAT and GNI own resources balances 1995-2013 was added to the ECOFIN agenda.

Coreper Part 1

II

- 50. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste to reduce the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
14592/14 ENV 846 MI 799 IND 297 CONSOM 212 CODEC 2064

In view of the second informal trilogue meeting on 4 November 2014, the Committee agreed on a revised mandate for the Presidency to negotiate with the European Parliament an early second agreement on the proposal above-mentioned. The results of the deliberations can be found in 15001/14.

- 51. Preparation for the Council meeting (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 10 and (poss.) 11 November 2014**
- **Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2015 and 2016 the fishing opportunities for EU vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks (*Non-legislative activity*)**
 - **Political agreement**
13852/14 PECHE 449
+ ADD 1
14591/14 PECHE 490
+ COR 1

The Committee took note of the outstanding issues, prepared the item and decided to maintain it on the agenda of the Council.

- 52. 4th Railway Package (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- a) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Union Agency for Railways and repealing Regulation (EC) No 881/2004**
 - b) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the interoperability of the rail system within the European Union (Recast)**
 - c) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on railway safety (Recast)**
 - **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the outcome of the informal trilogue of 23 October 2014.

53. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 96/53/EC laying down for certain road vehicles circulating within the Community the maximum authorised dimensions in national and international traffic and the maximum authorised weights in international traffic (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**
- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
14584/14 TRANS 484 CODEC 2063

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the outcome of the informal trilogue of 22 October 2014 and confirmed the mandate for the second trilogue as set out in 14584/14.

54. Establishment of a High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth (COMPCRO) (This item will be discussed in restricted session)

- **Approval**
14688/14 COMPET 586 POLGEN 146

After discussion the Committee approved the Presidency proposal for the establishment of a High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth as set out in 15006/14.

- **Any other business**
 - **Single Market Act (SMA) update**
 - **Information from the Presidency**

Presidency updated the Committee on the state of play of the proposals under the Single Market Acts I and II.

- **"White Helmets" initiative (CRP2)**

The German delegation outlined its initiative on a voluntary reserve pool of health care workers to respond effectively to future humanitarian disasters with important medical implications outside the European Union, similar to the current Ebola outbreak in West Africa. This capacity, to be further detailed in a non paper, would make full use of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

- **Gaz Talks (CRP2)**

Commission informed of the successful conclusion of the talks with Ukraine and Russia, which ended with an agreement on price, volumes and payment of debt.