

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 7 November 2008

15145/08 EXT 1

CRS/CRP 43

Extract of the SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 2249th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE

held in Brussels on 5-7 November 2008

Coreper Part 2:

61. Follow-up to the meeting of the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 4 November 2008

<u>The Committee</u> followed up on the Council (ECOFIN) meeting and the meetings in its margins.

On VAT fraud, the Committee Chair recalled the elements of the compromise on which the Council reached a general orientation, and which should be introduced in a new version of the legal text. There were no comments from any delegation. The legal-linguistic version of the legal text will be adopted by the Council as an 'A' item, once the European Parliament has given its opinion.

On the general arrangements for excise duty, there is an understanding that, once the parliamentary reserve from Slovenia is lifted and the European Parliament has given its opinion, the directive will be adopted by the Council as an 'A' item.

As regards the Commission proposal to amend Regulation (CE) no 332/2002, <u>the Committee</u> agreed that the amending regulation should be adopted urgently and to that end decided to ask the European Parliament to apply its urgency procedure for delivering its opinion on the proposal.

On the EU-EFTA meeting, the Commission is supposed to suggest to the Council what practical form the contacts with the respective financial supervisors should take.

<u>The Committee</u>, in a restricted session, also clarified the follow-up from the EU-EFTA meeting. The Presidency recalled the question to which five persons nominated by the Council, the Commission, EFTA, ESA and the ECB should reply by 7 November 2008.

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