



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 8 November 2011

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NOTE

from: the General Secretariat
to: COREPER/General Affairs Council
Subject: European Council (9 December 2011)
- Annotated draft agenda

In accordance with Article 3(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the European Council, the President of the European Council, in close cooperation with the member of the European Council representing the Member State holding the six-monthly Presidency of the Council and with the President of the Commission, shall submit an annotated draft agenda to the General Affairs Council.

Delegations will find attached the annotated draft agenda submitted by the President of the European Council, setting out the main items the European Council is expected to address on 9 December 2011.

In the light of the final discussion to be held by the General Affairs Council within the five days preceding the European Council meeting, the President of the European Council shall draw up the provisional agenda.

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I. ECONOMIC POLICY

The European Council will review the overall economic situation in Europe. It will also, in keeping with its June and October 2011 conclusions, revert to the question of promoting growth in Europe, with particular attention to prioritising growth-enhancing initiatives, reducing the overall regulatory burden as regards SMEs and micro-enterprises, delivering the Single Market Act and completing the Digital Agenda.

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The Member States participating in the Euro Plus Pact will track progress on the implementation at national level of the commitments under the Pact, in particular in the area of employment. They will also be seized of a report of their Finance Ministers on progress made on coordination of tax policy issues.

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The European Council will be informed by its President and hold an exchange of views on the reflections by the euro area Member States on the strengthening of economic convergence within the euro area, on improving fiscal discipline and deepening economic union, including exploring the possibility of limited Treaty changes.

II. ENERGY

The European Council will, on the basis of a report by the Presidency, track progress on the implementation of the guidelines set in February 2011, in particular as regards energy efficiency, the internal energy market, energy infrastructure development and external energy policy. It will also assess the initial findings of the nuclear stress tests on the basis of a preliminary report from the Commission as well as the progress report on the security of nuclear power plants.

III. OTHER ITEMS

Following the Commission's autumn package on enlargement and in the light of the Council's conclusions, the European Council will take the required decisions on possible next steps for particular accession countries.

p.m. Schengen enlargement

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In the margins of the European Council, the Accession Treaty with Croatia will be signed.