



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 25 January 2012

5211/12

CRS/CRP 1

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2391st meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 10 and 13 January 2012**

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2. Special report No 15/2011: Do the Commission's procedures ensure effective management of state aid control?
3. Special report No 13/2011: Does the control of customs procedure 42 prevent and detect VAT evasion?
4. Council Decision on the position to be taken by the European Union in the EEA Joint Committee concerning the setting up of a Joint Working Group to monitor the implementation of Chapter IIa of Protocol 10 to the EEA Agreement on simplification of inspections and formalities in respect of carriage of goods and defining its rules of procedure
5. Council Decision on the position to be taken by the European Union in the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement
7. Draft Letter to the European Systemic Risk Board
8. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council providing further macro-financial assistance to Georgia
9. Political and Security Committee Decision EUPOL COPPS/1/2011 extending the mandate of the Head of the European Union Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS)
10. Political and Security Committee Decision EUBAM Rafah/2/2011 extending the mandate of the Head of Mission of the European Union Border Assistance Mission at the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah)

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17. Replies to written questions put to the Council by Members of the European Parliament
 - (a) n° E-008751/11 put by Alexander Alvaro
"US access to European bank data"
 - (b) n° E-010245/11 put by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells
"Unemployment in Spain is now at 21.52 %, with 4 978 300 people out of work"
 - (c) n° E-010577/11 put by Marta Andreasen
"Sabbatical leave for Council staff"
 - (d) n° E-010602/11 put by Nigel Farage
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 - (e) n° E-011461/11 put by Alexander Alvaro
"US access to European bank data"
18. Draft agenda for the forthcoming part-session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg from 16 to 19 January 2012
19. Working parties and committees held in Denmark (1st semester 2012)
20. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on serious cross-border threats to health
21. Draft Commission Regulation (EU) No .../.. of XXX amending Regulation (EC) n° 1924/2006 with regard to the list of nutrition claims
22. Draft Commission Regulation (EU) No .../..of XXX amending Regulation (EU) No 19/2011 as regards type-approval requirements for the manufacturer's statutory plate of motor vehicles and their trailers
23. Draft Commission Directive ../.../EU of XXX amending Directive 2008/43/EC setting up, pursuant to Council Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses
24. Recommendation from the Commission to the Council authorizing the Commission to open negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the conclusion of a Fisheries Partnership Agreement and protocol with Mauritius
25. Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the Union, and provisional application of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mozambique
26. Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of a new Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mozambique
27. Proposal for a Council Regulation concerning the allocation of fishing opportunities under the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mozambique

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

doc. 5123/12 OJ CRP1 1

5059/1/12 REV 1 OJ/CRP2 1

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

The following item is **withdrawn** :

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

- 6. - Council Decision appointing the Chairperson of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board**
- Council Decision on the appointment of the three members of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board**
 - 18648/11 ECOFIN 891 STATIS 110 OC 92
 - 16488/11 ECOFIN 746 STATIS 81
 - 16486/11 ECOFIN 745 STATIS 80

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

Coreper Part 2

II

11. Presentation of the agenda and preparation of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 23 January 2012

- Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Committee took note of interventions by some delegations underlining the need for a proactive approach in the light of deterioration of situation in Belarus. EEAS SG Vimont stressed that this point will be on the agenda of next FAC. The importance to advance work on Iran sanctions along the lines of the dual track approach was also underlined. Two delegations recalled the freedom of religion issue. EEAS SG Vimont hinted that this point can be treated under AOB. One delegation underlined the need of a review to the EU security strategy. Two delegations underlined the importance to review MEPP in light of recent developments and the need for Council conclusions. Furthermore two delegations recalled the importance to examine the situation in Sudan / South Sudan.

12. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 31 January 2012

Le Comité prend acte de la liste des points susceptibles de figurer à l'ordre du jour provisoire de la session du Conseil susvisée.

13. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 24 January 2012

- Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Committee reviewed the state of readiness of the agenda items listed.

14. Roadmap on the implementation of the European Semester 5065/12 CO EUR-PREP 1 POLGEN 2

Presidency presented its roadmap on the implementation of the European Semester, noting that this will be the first exercise to see the recently strengthened economic governance, including the new procedure for monitoring and correcting macroeconomic imbalances.

15. Multiannual Financial Framework (2014-2020)

- **Organisation of work within the Council in the first semester 2012**
5032/12 CADREFIN 1 POLGEN 1

The Presidency informed delegations of its intentions regarding the organisation of work within the Council in the first semester 2012 on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 (doc. 5032 /12) .

In this context, the Committee was informed of the activation of the "Friends of the Presidency - external financial instruments" group which will assist the Committee in its work . It will be responsible for examining the draft Regulation establishing common rules and procedures, the draft Regulation establishing the Partnership Instrument and horizontal questions relevant to more than one of the 10 financial instruments proposed in the field of external relations.

In accordance with Article 19(3) of the Council Rules of Procedure, the Committee approved the setting up of an Ad Hoc Working Party to address the Commission proposals for financial instruments in the area of Justice and Home Affairs ("Ad Hoc Group JHA financial instruments"). It will meet in two formations, one on Justice Affairs and one on Home Affairs, in COMIX format when appropriate. The "interpreting on request" system will apply as regards the language regime. The mandate of this Ad Hoc Group will expire when the relevant financial instruments' proposals in the area of Justice and Home Affairs for the period 2014-2020 will have been adopted.

16. Relations with the European Parliament (January 2012)

18933/11 PE 578 INST 681 POLGEN 236 CODEC 2513

Le Comité a eu un échange de vues sur les relations entre le Conseil et le Parlement européen sur base d'une note fournie par le Secrétariat Général du Conseil.

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28. Working programme of the Danish Presidency

- Information from the Presidency

Presidency presented to the Committee its working programme for the next six months focusing in three main activity areas : Single Market Act, MFF delivery mechanisms and green and sustainable growth.

29. Road Map on the implementation of the European Semester

- Presentation by the Presidency

5065/12 CO EUR-PREP 1 POLGEN 2

Presidency presented its roadmap on the implementation of the European Semester.

- Any other business

• ETS/Aviation – response to US State Secretary Clinton and US Secretary of Transportation LaHood

- Information from the Commission

The Commission presented to the Committee the draft reply to the US letter. Certain delegations took the floor to offer some observations and seek clarification on the next steps. The Committee took note of the draft reply to the US letter. The Chair thanked the Commission for its draft and concluded that, since the Committee was in agreement on the importance of an expedient reply, the Commission would transmit the letter to the US, on behalf of the European Union, via the appropriate channels.
