



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 January 2009

5339/09

CRS/CRP 2

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : Extraordinary meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE (Part 1) held in Brussels on 5 January 2009**

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1. Adoption of the provisional agenda
CM 3/09

The above mentioned agenda is approved.

Coreper Part 1

II

- **Ukraine – Russia dispute over gas**
= **Exchange of views**

The meeting was intended to provide for an exchange of information on the dispute, to coordinate positions and to envisage the next steps (informal GAC on January 8, Gas coordination group on January 9). The Presidency and Commission informed the Committee on their various contacts with the two sides as well as on the planned fact finding missions in Kiev and Moscow, to be reported at next Committee.

Delegations were generally supportive of the Presidency and Commission's approach and provided some information on their national situation.

On the basis of the discussion the Chair could conclude that:

- this was primarily a commercial dispute to be treated as such by the EU;
- both sides should resume their negotiations, including given that their credibility was involved;
- both sides should be reminded that there exist other sources of gas;
- the EU will have to see how to address the issue of metering gas flows at the borders;
- we will have to return to how to improve price transparency;
- the Presidency will provide a few lines by way of guidance for consistent replies to a letter sent by President Yutchenko.
