

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 23 January 2009

5340/09

CRS CRP 3

SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 2257th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE

held in Brussels on 7, 9 and 12 January 2009

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SUMMARY

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1.	Adoption of the provisional agenda and items "I"	
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	I	
2.	Legal acts on financial assistance to Hungary: adoption of language versions not available at the time of adoption of the legal acts by the Council a) Council Decision providing Community medium-term financial assistance for Hungary b) Council Decision granting mutual assistance for Hungary	
3.	Transparency - access to documents a) Confirmatory application 22/c/01/08 b) Confirmatory application 23/c/01/08 c) Confirmatory application 24/c/03/08	
	II	
4.	Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 20 January 20096	
5.	Presentation of the agenda for the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations), on 26/27 January 2009	

- 7. Replies to written questions put to the Council by Members of the European Parliament
 - (a) n° E-5737/08 put by Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert "Belarus: suspension of visa bans"
 - (b) n° P-5837/08 put by Thijs Berman "Mauritania"
 - (c) n° E-5839/08 put by Manolis Mavrommatis
 "Inclusion of Luxembourgish as an official language"
 - (d) n° E-5903/08 put by Maria Grazia Pagano "Extradition of Marina Petrella"
 - (e) n° E-6051/08 put by Proinsias De Rossa "Detention of Meryem Özsögüt in Turkey"
 - (f) n° E-6123/08 put by Georgios Georgiou "A European Coast Guard"
 - (g) n° P-6177/08 put by Anneli Jäätteenmäki
 "The large number of cases pending before the European Court of Human Rights"
 - (h) n° E-6196/08 put by Frank Vanhecke "Freedom of the press in Morocco"
 - (i) n° E-6198/08 put by Frank Vanhecke "Freedom of the press in Tunisia"
 - (j) n° E-6207/08 put by Raül Romeva i Rueda"Support for the Saharan refugees in Smara and Auserd following the floods"
 - (k) n° P-6392/08 put by Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert "The madness of Strasbourg"
 - (l) n° E-6565/08 put by Georgios Georgiou "Stability Pact"
- 8. Draft agenda for the forthcoming part-session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg from 12 to 15 January 2009
- 9. Case before the Court of First Instance Case T-441/08 (ICO Services Limited v European Parliament and Council
- 10. Case C-444/08 P (Região autónoma dos Açores; the other parties to the proceedings being Council of the European Union, Commission of the European Communities, Kingdom of Spain, Seas at Risk VZW and others)
- 11. European Economic and Social Committee
 - Nomination of one member (ES)
- 12. European Economic and Social Committee
 - Nomination of two members (DE)
- 13. Draft Commission Directive/.../EC amending, for the purposes of its adaptation to technical progress, Council Directive 72/245/EEC relating to the radio interference (electromagnetic compatibility) of vehicles

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- 14. Proposal for Common rules of the Institutions of the European Communities amending the common rules laying down the composition and operation of the Staff Regulations Committee
- 15. Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion of an Agreement renewing the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the Republic of India
- 16. Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion on behalf of the Community of the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the European Community and the Government of New Zealand

II

17.	Wor	king programme of the Czech Presidency	
18.	Preparation for the Council meeting (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 19 January 2009		
	1.	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market	
	2.	Proposal for a Council Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape T45 (ACS-BNØØ8-2) resulting from the commercialisation of this oilseed rape in third countries until 2005 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council	
	3.	Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the placing on the market, in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of a carnation (Dianthus caryophyllus L., line 123.8.12) genetically modified for flower colour	
-	Any other business		
	a)	Working time directive 9	

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doc. 5061/09 OJ/CRP1 1 + ADD 1 + CM 57/09 5004/08 OJ/CRP2 1

The above mentioned agenda is approved with the following changes:

The following items are **added**:

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

6. Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council appointing the European Data Protection Supervisor and the Assistant Supervisor

17525/08 INST 193 EDPS 3 DATAPROTECT 108 JAI 732 CAB 71 16891/08 INST 180 EDPS 2 DATAPROTECT 104 JAI 692 CAB 63

(Coreper Part 1, under II)

- 19. Preparation for the extraordinary Council meeting (Transports, telecommunication and energy) on 12 January 2009
 - 1. Setting of the provisional agenda
 - 2. Ukraine Russia dispute over gas
 - Exchange of views
 - **(poss.) Adoption of Council conclusions** 5089/09 ENER 4 COEST 3

The following item on the agenda has been **transferred** from 'Any other business' to part II:

Any other bussiness

- b) Ukraine-Russia dispute over gas
 - Information from the Presidency and the Commission

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

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Coreper Part 2

II

- 4. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 20 January 2009
 - Other items in connection with the Council meeting

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

In the context of the follow-up of the conclusions of the European Council of 11 and 12 December 2008 and following the inconclusive discussions in <u>the Committee</u> on 23 December on the proposal for a revision of the Multi-annual Financial Framework 2007-2013, the President asked the Commission to present the three following documents:

- a list of energy projects that fulfil the criteria formulated by delegations at the last meeting of the Committee of 23 December;
- a document on details concerning the broadband infrastructure projects foreseen by the Commission;
- an analysis of the overall financial needs and funds available taking into account all the possibilities for reprioritisation.

The President of <u>the Committee</u> also asked the Commission to specify its intentions for the Integrated Guidelines and Country-Specific Recommendations as soon as possible.

5. Presentation of the agenda for the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations), on 26/27 January 2009

<u>Le Comité</u> prend acte de la liste des points susceptibles de figurer aux ordres du jour provisoires des sessions du Conseil susvisées.

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Coreper Part 1

II

17. Working programme of the Czech Presidency

- Information from the Presidency

<u>The Committee</u> takes note of the presentation of the main features of the Presidency programme.

18. Preparation for the Council meeting (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 19 January 2009

- 1. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market
 - Policy debate

(Public deliberation, pursuant to Article 8(1)(c) CR 14482/08 AGRI 336 ENV 703 FOREST 57 CODEC 1353 DEVGEN 190 RELEX 777 JUR 441 UD 191

17313/08 AGRI 460 ENV 1018 FOREST 84 CODEC 1857 DEVGEN 274 RELEX 1028 JUR 573 UD 231 5036/09 AGRI 1 ENV 2 FORETS 1 CODEC 2 DEVGEN 2 RELEX 4

36/09 AGRI I ENV 2 FORETS I CODEC 2 DEVGEN 2 RELEX 4 - JUR 1 UD 3

<u>The Committee</u> prepared for the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council's policy debate on 19 January 2009 on the basis of a Presidency questionnaire (doc. 17313/08) setting out three questions facilitating the discussion. This paper had been modified in the light of comments forwarded by delegations at the meeting of the Working Party of Counsellors/Attachés on 7 January 2009.

The <u>NL delegation</u> suggested to change the question number 1 to stress the importance of enforcement. The question would then read: "Would you advise to further specify the due diligence system in the proposal, including those elements which are essential for effective and efficient enforcement of the proposal?".

The final draft of the questionnaire is to be found in document 5241/09.

- 2. Proposal for a Council Decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape T45 (ACS-BNØØ8-2) resulting from the commercialisation of this oilseed rape in third countries until 2005 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council
 - Adoption 15039/08 AGRILEG 188 ENV 753 5066/09 AGRILEG 2 ENV 5
- 3. Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the placing on the market, in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of a carnation (Dianthus caryophyllus L., line 123.8.12) genetically modified for flower colour
 - **Adoption** 16271/08 AGRILEG 213 ENV 883 5066/09 AGRILEG 2 ENV 5

The results of the Committee's work are to be found in document 5177/09.

- 19. Preparation for the extraordinary Council meeting (Transports, telecommunication and energy) on 12 January 2009
 - 1. Setting of the provisional agenda

The Committee agreed on the provisional agenda.

- 2. Ukraine Russia dispute over gas
 - Exchange of views
 - Adoption of Council conclusions 5089/09 ENER 4 COEST 3 + REV 2 5165/09 ENER 8 COEST 10

The Chair debriefed the Committee on the various missions/events that took place since the extraordinary Committee on 5 January, recommended that no reply should be sent to President Yushenko's letter for the time being and stressed again the importance of unity and coordinated action. The Commission informed the Committee on the provisional agreement reached by the parties concerned on the deployment of a team of EU monitors, to be accompanied by observers from both parties. The Commission emphasized the importance of clearly differentiating the (short term) issue of resuming the gas supply from that of achieving a lasting resolution of the dispute, mentioned that it could advance some of the measures envisaged in the 2nd Strategic Energy Review and possibly use some of the actions under the European Recovery Plan and debriefed on the meeting of the Gas Coordination Group that

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took place earlier on today and addressed the monitoring mission, delay to have gas flowing after the mission's deployment, and the state of play in the EU and the Energy Community.

Regarding the preparation of the Council proper the Chair indicated the approach for the Council (doc. 5087/09) and what could be covered by the intended conclusions:

- short term measures, including solidarity ones
- urgent assessment of what is the situation (flows, demand), so as to increase transparency
- mid-term measures such as accelerating the revision of the 2004/67 Directive and speeding up some projects
- improving storage and connections
- report/assessment at the February TTE Council

Delegations were generally supportive of the Presidency's approach and were invited to react to the draft conclusions that the Presidency intended to circulate later on.

The Chair debriefed the Committee on the state of play regarding the Terms of reference for the monitoring mission currently deployed in Russia and Ukraine and informed the Committee that a meeting between EU representatives and Russian and Ukrainian governments and companies representatives will take place just after the TTE Council.

The Committee then discussed the draft Council conclusions set out in document 5089/2/09 REV 2. On that basis the Presidency undertook to revise the conclusions with a view to their adoption by the Council this afternoon.

Any other business

- a) Working time directive
 - **Information from the Presidency**

The Committee takes note of information provided by the Presidency regarding the handling of this file in second reading.

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