



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 28 January 2009

5341/09

CRS CRP 4

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2258th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 14 and 16 January 2009**

SUMMARY

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2. Audit report and discharge for the period 1 January 2007 - 31 December 2007
3. Report to the Council on implementation of the Action Plan for the strategy for customs cooperation in the third pillar (1 January 2007 - 30 June 2008)
4. Decision of the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice, the Court of Auditors, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the organisation and operation of the Publications Office of the European Union
5. Committee of the Regions
 - Appointment of one member (AT)
6. Committee of the Regions
 - Appointment of one member and two alternate members (DK)
7. Council Decision amending Decision 1999/70/EC concerning the external auditors of the national central banks, as regards the external auditor of Bank Centrali ta' Malta/Central Bank of Malta
8. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund concerning certain provisions relating to financial management
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 - (b) n° E-6311/08 put by James Nicholson
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 - b) The definition of a "2020 Vision for the European Research Area"
 - c) Joint Programming of Research in Europe in response to the major societal challenges

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

doc. 5268/09 OJ/CRP1 2

5205/09 OJ/CRP2 2

The above mentioned agenda is approved with the following changes :

The following item is **added** :

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

12. CDE - Appointment of the director of the Centre for the Development of Enterprise

5148/09 ACP 9 PTOM 7 FIN 10

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

10. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 20 January 2009

a) Follow-up to the December European Council: Impact on Council work

The Committee took note of the intention of the Presidency to present, on 20 January 2009, its work plan and organisation of work ahead of the March European Council.

b) Western Balkans investment framework = Draft Council conclusions 5113/09 ECOFIN 9 COWEB 5

The Committee agreed to inscribe the draft conclusions set out in document 5113/09 on the agenda of the Council on 20 January 2009 for adoption.

c) Other items in connection with the Council meeting 5198/09 ECOFIN 14 UEM 5 EF 5

The Committee finalised the provisional agenda for this Council meeting and reviewed the state of readiness of the agenda items listed.

11. Preparation of the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations) on 26/27 January 2009

A. General Affairs

- Other items in connection with the Council meeting

Le Comité fait le point de l'état de préparation des autres points figurant à l'ordre du jour provisoire de la session Affaires générales.

B. External Relations

- Other items in connection with the Council meeting

Le Comité fait le point de l'état de préparation des autres points figurant à l'ordre du jour provisoire de la session Relations extérieures.

Coreper Part 1

II

15. **Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning type-approval requirements for the general safety of motor vehicles (First reading)**
- **Preparation of the next informal trialogue**
11726/5/08 ENT 173 ENV 443 CODEC 958 REV 5

The Committee examined a Presidency compromise text and gave a mandate to the Presidency to explore the possibilities of a first reading agreement with the European Parliament at the next informal trialogue meeting.

- **Any other business**
= **Political clauses (information point)**

La Présidence a informé le Comité sur la suite à donner à la discussion sur les clauses politiques sous Présidence française. Les États membres ont été invité d'envoyer leurs commentaires éventuels sur le document présenté par la Présidence française en décembre.

- = **Ukraine - Russia dispute over gas**
- **Follow-up to the extraordinary meeting of the Council of 12 January 2009**

The Chairperson debriefed the Committee on recent developments as well as on the summit convened in Moscow on 17 January, and recalled the line agreed at the Committee on 15 January. The Commission provided additional information on the summit, reconfirmed the line agreed at the Committee and stress the need to intensify efforts on internal aspects of the crisis; in this respect the Gas Coordination Group will meet on 19 January and Director-Generals for Energy on 21 January. A few delegations updated the Committee on their internal situation as well as on bilateral contacts with the Russian side.

The Chairperson concluded by stressing the need to have comprehensive exchange of information on all contacts taken at high level and noting that the impact of the dispute is no longer limited to a few "most affected" countries.

- = **Lisbon agenda: Indicative Road map for the Spring European Council**
- **Information from the Presidency**

The Presidency draws the Committee's attention to the road map for the preparation of the Spring European Council which has been circulated the day before.

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