



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 15 February 2011

5666/11

CRS/CRP 3

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2349th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 26, 28 and 31 January 2011**

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

doc. 5645/11 OJ/CRP1 3

5665/1/11 REV 1 OJ/CRP2 3 + REV 1 COR 1 + CM 1378/1/11 REV 1

The above mentioned agendas are approved with the following changes :

The following items are **added** :

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

42. Council Decision concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Tunisia

5715/11 PESC 93 RELEX 62 COMAG 6 FIN 42

5717/1/11 REV 1 PESC 95 RELEX 63 COMAG 7 FIN 43

(Coreper Part 2, under II)

38. Preparation for the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 31 January 2011

i) Lebanon

- Draft Council conclusions

5820/11 COMAG 9 COMEP 2 PESC 115

j) Egypt

- Draft Council conclusions

5890/11 COMAG 10 PESC 126

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

The Commission made a declaration on the following items :

27. Republic of Guinea-Bissau

5470/11 PESC 55 COAFR 20 FIN 24

- a) **Council Decision concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies threatening the peace, security or stability of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau**

5246/11 PESC 30 COAFR 12 FIN 12

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

- b) **Council Regulation concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies threatening the peace, security or stability of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau**

5256/11 PESC 31 RELEX 21 COAFR 13 FIN 13

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

29. Belarus

5521/11 PESC 65 RELEX 43 COEST 13

- a) **Council Decision amending Council Decision 2010/639/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against certain officials of Belarus**

5409/11 PESC 46 COEST 11

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

- b) **Council implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures against President Lukashenko and certain officials of Belarus**

5509/11 PESC 60 RELEX 44 COEST 12

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

"The Commission notes that the Council has reserved implementing powers for itself in view of the specific threat to international peace and security posed by the situation in Guinea-Bissau or in Belarus, and to ensure consistency with the process for amending and reviewing the annex to the new CFSP Decision on Guinea-Bissau or the annexes to Decision 2010/639/CFSP on Belarus, respectively. With reference to Article 291(2) of the Treaty, the Commission maintains its view that it would have been more appropriate to confer implementing powers upon the Commission. The Commission considers that this case cannot be considered a precedent for future arrangements on implementing powers in respect of future Council regulations imposing restrictive measures."

The following declaration is made on item 29 - Belarus by the SE delegation :

29. Belarus

5521/11 PESC 65 RELEX 43 COEST 13

a) Council Decision amending Council Decision 2010/639/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against certain officials of Belarus

5409/11 PESC 46 COEST 11

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

b) Council implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 765/2006 concerning restrictive measures against President Lukashenko and certain officials of Belarus

5509/11 PESC 60 RELEX 44 COEST 12

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

"Sweden is pleased with the relatively swift decision to restore full sanctions against those whose travel restrictions were suspended and to impose sanctions against the persons responsible for the fraudulent electoral process and for the crackdown on the opposition, civil society and representatives of mass media in connection with the presidential elections in Belarus in December 2010.

While in full agreement with the selection of those listed, Sweden regrets that it was not considered possible to supplement the annexes with brief reasons, individualized or through classification of names under descriptive headings. That would have made it clearer how those listings which are not so obvious by a person's mere position are linked to the criteria. The absence of such clarifications in the annexes leads to an intransparency and lack of legal precision which seem out of date by comparison with recent EU standards, as illustrated i.a. by the annexes to the legal acts on Guinea-Bissau and Côte d'Ivoire also adopted today and reflected in the EU sanctions guidelines. This is particularly regrettable since sufficient information had already been supplied by HoMs in Minsk. The fact that the annex originating from 2006 does not conform to today's standards seems a poor excuse. Sweden strongly supports adopting the decision on the restrictive measures now, but would at the same time strongly favour that the annexes in question are updated to be in line with recent EU standards when these restrictive measures are reviewed next time."

Coreper Part 1

II

13. **Setting of the provisional agenda for the Council meeting (Education, Youth, Culture and Sport) on 14 February 2011**

The Committee agrees on the provisional agenda for the forthcoming Council meeting (Education, Youth, Culture and Sport) as set out in document 6169/11.

14. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods and amending Regulation (EC) n° 1331/2008 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 258/97 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1852/2001 (Third reading)**

- **Preparation for conciliation**
5555/11 CODEC 83 DENLEG 6 AGRI 37

Le Comité prépare la réunion du comité de conciliation du 1.2.2011 sur base du document 5555/11 et établit un nouveau mandat de négociation. Les résultats du débat figurent au document 5707/11 (document pour la conciliation).

Coreper Part 2

II

- 33. Action for annulment related to the modalities of adoption of the 2011 budget (Ambassadors only)**
18218/10 JUR 547

Le Comité convient de recommander au Conseil de donner, sous points A de sa session du 31 janvier, mandat au Service juridique d'introduire un recours en annulation relatif aux modalités d'adoption du budget 2011; ce recours sera déposé le 15 février 2011, à moins que les démarches auprès du Parlement européen n'aboutissent, avant cette date, à un résultat satisfaisant pour le Conseil.

- 34. Preparation for the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 31 January 2011**

- a) European Council meeting on 4 February 2011**
= **Draft conclusions**
5333/1/11 REV 1 CO EUR-PREP 2 + COR 1

The Committee examined the draft EC conclusions. On the basis of this discussion, a revised version will be submitted to the Council.

- b) European Semester**
= **Presentation of the Annual Growth Survey**
18066/10 ECOFIN 866 COMPET 443 SOC 858 ENV 878 EDUC 235
RECH 426 ENER 372
+ REV 1 (fr)
+ ADD 1
+ ADD 2
+ ADD 3

= **Presidency Roadmap on the implementation of the European Semester**
5644/11 CO EUR-PREP 3 POLGEN 5

The Commission presented the Annual Growth Survey, adopted on 12 January.

The Council will be invited to endorse the roadmap on the implementation of the European Semester.

- c) **Romas**
= **Roadmap for the Presidency report on Roma integration**
5662/11 POLGEN 6 SOC 53 ECOFIN 29 JAI 43

The Presidency informed the Committee for its intention to organise structured and comprehensive debates in the relevant Council formations on the Commission Communication on the EU Framework on National Roma Integration Strategies in order to prepare a Presidency Report which will be submitted to the General Affairs Council.

- d) **European Union Strategy for the Danube Region**
18055/10 FSTR 41 COWEB 322 REGIO 106 SOC 867 FC 19 ECOFIN 864
ENV 875 TRANS 386 PECHE 352 RECH 425 JAI 1085 COEST 400
ENER 369 MI 555 MAR 133 COMPET 442 AGRI 556
+ COR 1
+ ADD 1 + ADD 1 COR 1
+ ADD 2 + ADD 2 COR 1
+ ADD 3 + ADD 3 COR 1

The Committee took note of the intentions of the Presidency on how to deal with the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region at the General Affairs Council on 31 January 2011.

- e) **Other items in connection with the Council meeting**

Le Comité met au point l'ordre du jour provisoire de la session du Conseil Affaires générales.

35. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 21 February 2011

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

36. Presentation of the agenda of Council meeting (Justice and Home Affairs) on 24-25 February 2011

The Presidency presented the draft agenda for the Council meeting.

BE and AT requested the addition of the following points under 'Any Other Business':

'Seminar on unaccompanied children' (BE) and 'the Police Equal Performance project' (AT).

37. Information on the Justice and Home Affairs informal Ministerial meeting, Gödöllő 19-21 January 2011

The Presidency informed the Committee on the discussions held by the Justice and Home Affairs Ministers during their informal meeting held in Gödöllő and distributed written information on that subject to delegations.

38. Preparation for the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 31 January 2011

a) Russia

On the basis of an informal steering note by the EEAS, the Committee exchanged views on Russia as a strategic partner in preparation of an informal discussion over dinner by the Foreign Affairs Council on 31 January 2011.

b) Belarus

- **Draft Council conclusions**
5759/11 COEST 28 PESC 106 RELEX 71

With a view to their adoption by the Foreign Affairs Council on 31 January, the Committee agreed on draft Council Conclusions on Belarus, in the terms set out in document 5809/11, with the exception of a request by two delegations to add a reference to "measures affecting economic cooperation" at the end of paragraph 8. The Committee agreed to submit this issue to the attention of the Council.

c) Tunisia

- **Draft Council conclusions**
5686/2/11 REV 2 COMAG 5 PESC 89

Le Comité a approuvé le projet de Conclusions du Conseil sur la Tunisie (doc. 5686/3/11 REV 3 + COR 1 + COR 1 REV 1).

d) Côte d'Ivoire

- **Draft Council conclusions**
5553/11 PESC 68 COAFR 28 ACP 13 COSDP 42 RELEX 48 COHAFA 6

The Committee discussed and agreed draft Council conclusions on Côte d'Ivoire and forwarded them to the Council for approval. Document 5553/11 was revised on 31 January to take into account the outcome of the African Union Summit.

e) Sahel

- Draft Council conclusions

5650/11 PESC 86 COAFR 30 ACP 14 COTER 7

The Committee discussed and agreed draft Council conclusions on Sahel and forwarded them to the Council for approval.

f) Sudan

- Draft Council conclusions

5552/11 PESC 67 COAFR 27 ACP 12 COHOM 12 COJUR 2 COHAFA 3

On 26 January the Committee discussed and agreed draft Council conclusions on Sudan and forwarded them to the Council for approval. Following events during the weekend, the Committee modified the Council conclusions and issued a revised version on 31 January.

g) Intolerance, discrimination and violence on the basis of religion or belief

- Draft Council conclusions

5630/11 COHOM 13 PESC 81

The Committee examined the draft text as submitted by PSC. The Chair indicated that Ministers would have an occasion for a short exchange of views at the FAC on 31 January 2011.

h) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

Le Comité met au point l'ordre du jour provisoire de la session du Conseil Affaires étrangères.

i) Lebanon

- Draft Council conclusions

5820/11 COMAG 9 COMEP 2 PESC 115

Le Comité a approuvé le projet de Conclusions du Conseil sur le Liban (doc. 5820/11).

j) Egypt

- Draft Council conclusions

5890/11 COMAG 10 PESC 126

Le Comité a approuvé le projet de Conclusions du Conseil sur l'Egypte (DS 1072/11).

39. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 21 February 2011

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

40. Debriefing of the G20 Sherpa meeting held in Paris on 25-26 January 2011

Le Comité a été informé par la Commission sur la réunion de Sherpa G20.

41. Preparation for the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 15 February 2011

a) Proposals on economic governance

5572/11 ECOFIN 26 UEM 13 SOC 43 CODEC 88

- **Regulation amending Council Regulation 1466/97 (preventive arm of the Stability and Growth Pact)**
= **Policy debate**
- **Regulation amending Council Regulation 1467/97 (corrective arm of the Stability and Growth Pact)**
= **Policy debate**

The Committee exchanged views on the main outstanding issues in the draft text.

- **Regulation on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances**
= **Policy debate**

The Committee reviewed the state of readiness of the agenda item and encouraged the ad hoc working group to proceed swiftly with the identified open issues of the regulative proposal.

- **Council Directive on requirements for budgetary frameworks of Member States**
= **Policy debate**

The Committee exchanged views on the main outstanding issues in the draft text.

b) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

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

- **Any other business**

- **Readmission agreement EU-Turkey**

The Commission presented the current state-of-play of the negotiations for an EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement. The Committee, after having a preliminary exchange of views, agreed to return to the item at its meeting on 9 February 2011.

- **Visa liberalisation**

FR introduced the joint FR/NL note on the establishment of a mechanism to suspend visa liberalisation contained in document 18212/10 VISA 311 COMIX 842 which the Presidency indicated would be discussed in the first instance in SCIFA on 8/9 February.

- **Roadmap for the adoption of the Presidency report on Roma integration**

Presidency briefly drew the delegations' attention to the roadmap prepared by the Presidency and distributed to delegations the day before.

- **Transitional Committee**

IT raised the question of the nomination of EU members for the Transitional Committee and indicated that it could not live with the solution that was currently on the table. The Presidency indicated that it would revert to this issue at one of its next meetings.

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