

### **COUNCIL OF** THE EUROPEAN UNION

**Brussels, 11 February 2009** 

5760/09

CRS/CRP 6

### **SUMMARY RECORD**

**Subject:**  ${\bf 2260 th \ meeting \ of \ the \ PERMANENT \ REPRESENTATIVES \ COMMITTEE}$ 

held in Brussels on 28 and 30 January 2009

5760/09 lb CAB

FR/EN

## **SUMMARY**

1.	Ado	ption of the provisional agenda and items "I"
Cor	eper F	Part 1
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		I
2.	Repl	ies to written questions put to the Council by Members of the European Parliament
	(a)	n° E-6242/08 put by Emilio Menéndez del Valle "Presidential election in Afghanistan in 2009"
	(b)	n° E-6334/08 put by Frank Vanhecke "Repression in Tibet"
	(c)	n° E-6356/08 put by Emilio Menéndez del Valle "Egypt: disproportionate use of force against immigrants"
	(d)	n° E-6434/08 put by Anneli Jäätteenmäki "Reducing frivolous directives"
	(e)	n° E-6443/08 put by Emilio Menéndez del Valle "In Afghanistan, a fragile State, unduly harsh application of the death penalty"
	(f)	n° P-6543/08 put by David Martin "Consultation on EC-CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement"
	(g) (h)	n° E-6549/08 put by Erminio Enzo Boso "Bovine tuberculosis outbreak in Trentino (Val di Sole)" n° E-6556/08 put by Emilio Menéndez del Valle and n° E-6607/08 and n° E-6698/08
	` ,	put by Mario Borghezio "The Zimbabwean dictator Mugabe persists in starving his people and opposing the democratisation of the regime. Is South Africa changing direction?", "Crisis in Zimbabwe" and "Cholera epidemic in Zimbabwe"
	(i)	n° P-6579/08 put by Eva-Britt Svensson "Market in war material"
	(j)	n° E-6595/08 put by Mario Borghezio "Resistance to EU intervention in support of 'concerted immigration'"
	(k)	n° E-6599/08 put by Mario Borghezio "Islamic threats against the artist Lars Vilks"
	(1)	n° E-6601/08 put by Mario Borghezio "Turkey's censorship of book by Ocalan"
	(m)	n° E-6635/08 put by Marco Cappato "Drugs"
	(n)	n° E-6638/08 put by Hans-Peter Martin "Officials having their main residence in Luxembourg"
	(o)	n° E-6640/08 put by Hans-Peter Martin "Penalties for exceeding the upper limit on CO2 emissions for new cars"
	(p)	n° E-6717/08 put by Jim Allister "Regions"

5760/09

CAB

Tb

FR/EN

- 3. Case before the Court of Justice
  - Case C-429/08 (Request for preliminary ruling; Karen Murphy v. Media Protection Services Limited)
- 4. Draft agenda for the forthcoming part-session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg from 2 to 5 February 2009
- 5. Draft Commission Decision concerning the non-inclusion of certain substances in Annex I, IA or IB to Directive 98/8/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of biocidal products on the market

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6.	Review of the EU regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and service (First reading)			
7.	Road transport (European Parliament second reading)			
	(a)	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for access to the international road haulage market (recast)		
	(b)	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing common rules concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the occupation of road transport operator		
	(c)	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for access to the international market for coach and bus services (recast)		
8.	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods and amending Regulation (EC) No XXX/XXXX [common procedure] (First reading)			
9.	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistic on plant protection products			
10.	Setting of the provisional agenda of the Council meeting (Transport, Telecommunications ar Energy) on 19 February 2009			
11.	Prop 2003	rnal Energy Market legislative package posal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 3/54/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity (First reading)		

5760/09 lb 3
CAB FR/EN

12.	Preparation of the Council meeting (Education, Youth Affairs and Culture) on 16 February
	2009

1.	Setting of the provisional agenda
2.	Key messages to the Spring European Council on the European Youth Pact and the
	European cooperation in the youth field
3.	Better implementation and greater visibility of the European Youth Pact11
4.	Key messages to the Spring European Council in the field of education and training
	11
5.	An updated strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training
	11

5760/09 lb 4 FR/EN

### **Coreper Part 2**

I

- Special report No 9/2008 concerning the effectiveness of EU support in the area of freedom, 13. security and justice for Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine
- 14 Special report No 11/2008 concerning the management of the European Union support for the public storage operations of cereals
- Proposal for transfer of appropriations No V/01/AB/09 within Section V Court of Auditors -15. of the general budget for 2009 (NCE)
- Proposal for a Council Decision concluding the Economic Partnership Agreement between 16. the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the CARIFORUM States, on the other part
- 17. Iraq
  - Council Common Position amending Common Position 2003/495/CFSP on Iraq a)
  - Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) n° 1210/2003 concerning certain **b**) specific restrictions on economic and financial relations with Iraq
- Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and on the 18. provisional application of certain provisions of the Agreement between the European Union and Iceland and Norway on the application of certain provisions of Council Decision 2008/61/JHA on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross-border crime and Council Decision 2008/616/JHA on the implementation of Decision 2008/615/JHA on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross-border crime, and the Annex thereto
- Council Decision on the signing on behalf of the European Community of the Convention on 19. **Choice-of-Court Agreements**
- 20. Management report on the implementation of the C.SIS installation and operation budget for 2007

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21.	Appointment of the Europol Director (restricted session)
22.	Follow-up to the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations), on 26/27 January 2009
23.	Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs), on 10 February 2009  Other items in connection with the Council meeting

5760/09 lb **CAB** 

24.	European Economic Recovery Plan (follow up to December European Council)		
	-	Commission Communication: "Investing today for tomorrow's Europe"	
		= Proposal for a Regulation establishing a programme for the granting of	
		Community financial assistance to projects in the field of energy to aid economic recovery	
		= Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulations (EC) 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the EAFRD	
		Proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 2006/493/EC laying down the amount of Community support for rural development (2007-2013), its annual breakdown and the minimum amount to be concentrated in regions eligible under the Convergence Objective	
-	Any	other business	
	(a)	Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on interoperability solutions for European public administrations (ISA)	
	(b)	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/88/EC concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time (Second reading)	

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

doc. 5723/09 OJ/CRP1 4 5732/09 OJ/CRP2 4

The above mentioned agenda is approved.

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

5760/09 lb 7
CAB FR/EN

## **Coreper Part 1**

II

- 6. Review of the EU regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (First reading)
  - **Preparation of the next informal trialogue** 5695/09 TELECOM 7 MI 23 COMPET 30 DATAPROTECT 3 CONSOM 10 CAB 1 CODEC 76

On 28 January 2009, the Committee prepared for the first informal trialogue concerning the Review of the Regulatory framework for electronic communications and services. In this meeting, the Member States underlined the strong position of the Council in its political agreement of 27 November 2008 and indicated the most sensitive issues in the Review proposals. The Member States supported the Presidency's intention to find an agreement with the European Parliament before the end of its current mandate.

- 7. Road transport (European Parliament second reading)
  - (a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for access to the international road haulage market (recast)
  - (b) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing common rules concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the occupation of road transport operator
  - (c) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for access to the international market for coach and bus services (recast)
  - Presidency briefing on the outcome of the informal trialogue

<u>The Presidency</u> informed <u>the Committee</u> on the results of the informal trialogue with the rapporteurs and submitted the dossiers to the Working Party on Land Transport in order to prepare the Council's position for the next informal trialogue (12 February 2009).

5760/09 lb **FR/EN** 

# 8. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods and amending Regulation (EC) No XXX/XXXX [common procedure] (First reading)

- **Preparation of the informal trialogue** 5542/09 DENLEG 6 CODEC 57

### The Committee:

- a) <u>agreed</u> to give a mandate to the Presidency to start negotiations with the European Parliament in view of the first reading agreement on the basis of the above document;
- b) <u>asked</u> the Working Party on Foodstuffs (Attaches level) to discuss again Article 8 with an objective to reach an agreement on the procedure for traditional foods from third countries;
- c) <u>agreed</u> to put into brackets the last sentence of recital 6a;
- d) <u>agreed</u> to return to this proposal in the light of the outcome of the first informal trialogue.

# 9. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on plant protection products

- **Preparation of the next informal trialogue** 5674/09 STATIS 5 AGRI 28 ENV 35 CODEC 75

With a view to prepare the first informal trialogue with the European Parliament, <u>the Committee</u> exchanged views on the main issues set out by the Presidency in document 5674/09.

In general the delegations could show some flexibility on the three issues that the Presidency had set out in the above document, except for the extension of the scope to non-agricultural use.

# 10. Setting of the provisional agenda of the Council meeting (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 19 February 2009

<u>The Committee</u> could agree to the provisional agenda and took note of the Bulgarian delegation's request to add the following AOB item: "Information by Bulgaria on the forum "Natural Gas and Partnership" (Sofia, 24-25 April)."

5760/09 lb **FR/EN** 

### Internal Energy Market legislative package 11. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/54/EC concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity (First reading)

### Presidency briefing on the outcome of the informal trialogue

The Chair informed the Committee on the proceedings of the first informal trialogue held on 28 January which resulted in agreeing on:

- the following blocks of topics for the negotiations:
  - 1. unbundling, 3rd country clause, level playing field
  - 2. **NRAs**
  - 3 Consumer rights and energy poverty
  - Codes/guidelines, ENTSO, Agency, regional cooperation 4.
  - Other issues (gas specifics, etc.) 5.
- provisional dates for the future trialogues: 3 and 18 February, 3, 17 and 24 March.

The coming trialogue will address the first and second blocks as well as regional cooperation issues linked to NRAs.

#### **(b)** Preparation of the next informal trialogue 5437/1/09 ENER 18 CODEC 48 REV 1

The Chair outlined the approach envisaged for this trialogue, as reflected in document 5437/2/09 REV 2 which was broadly acceptable to delegations, subject to a limited number of reservations and suggestions that the Presidency intended to take duly into consideration when presenting the Council's views to the EP.

#### Preparation of the Council meeting (Education, Youth Affairs and Culture) on 12. 16 February 2009

#### 1. Setting of the provisional agenda

The Committee agrees on the provisional agenda for the forthcoming Council meeting (Education, Youth and Culture) as set out in document 6097/09 OJ CONS 6 EDUC 18 JEUN 9 CULT 5.

5760/09 lb 10 FR/EN **CAB** 

# 2. Key messages to the Spring European Council on the European Youth Pact and the European cooperation in the youth field

- Adoption 5492/09 JEUN 6 EDUC 9 SOC 19

<u>Le Comité</u> convient de soumettre ce point au Conseil sur la base du document 5492/09 en vue de l'adoption des messages-clés destinés au Conseil européen de printemps.

### 3. Better implementation and greater visibility of the European Youth Pact

- **Exchange of views**(Public debate pursuant to article 8(3) CRP (proposed by the Presidency))
5493/09 JEUN 7 EDUC 10 SOC 20

<u>Le Comité</u> convient de soumettre ce point au Conseil pour un échange de vues sur la base du document 5493/09.

# 4. Key messages to the Spring European Council in the field of education and training

- Adoption 5490/09 EDUC 7 JEUN 5 ECOFIN 32 AG 6 COMPET 22 RECH 13

<u>Le Comité</u> convient de soumettre ce point au Conseil sur la base du nouveau document 5809/09, en vue de l'adoption des messages-clés destinés au Conseil européen de printemps.

## 5. An updated strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training

- Exchange of views
(Public debate pursuant to article 8(3) CRP (proposed by the Presidency))
5491/09 EDUC 8 SOC 18 MI 16 COMPET 23

<u>Le Comité</u> convient de soumettre ce point au Conseil pour un échange de vues sur la base du nouveau document 5956/09.

5760/09 lb 11 **FR/EN** 

## **Coreper Part 2**

II

### 21. Appointment of the Europol Director (restricted session)

17147/08 EUROPOL 82 RESTREINT UE 5043/09 EUROPOL 2 5352/09 EUROPOL 4

The Committee discussed the appointment of the new Europol Director on the basis of the opinion of the Europol Management Board as set out in document 17174/08 EUROPOL 82 (RESTREINT UE) with a view to submitting a proposal to the Justice and Home Affairs Council in February 2009. Following these discussions and after clarifications of the Council Legal Service regarding the selection procedure and the ranking of the candidates, the Presidency concluded that the selection procedure was transparent and in compliance with the provisions of the Europol Convention and the Europol Staff Regulations. No agreement could be reached on the basis of the unanimous opinion of the Europol Management Board. The Presidency confirmed that the issue will be submitted to the JHA Council on 26-27 February 2009.

## 22. Follow-up to the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations), on 26/27 January 2009

<u>Le Comité</u> est informé du suivi que la Présidence entend donner à la session du Conseil, en particulier la sécurité énergétique et Guantanamo.

## 23. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs), on 10 February 2009

- Other items in connection with the Council meeting

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

- 24. European Economic Recovery Plan (follow up to December European Council)
  - Commission Communication: "Investing today for tomorrow's Europe"
    - Proposal for a Regulation establishing a programme for the granting of Community financial assistance to projects in the field of energy to aid economic recovery
    - Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulations (EC) 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the EAFRD
    - Proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 2006/493/EC laying down the amount of Community support for rural development (2007-2013), its annual breakdown and the minimum amount to be concentrated in regions eligible under the Convergence Objective

The Commission presented its Communication "Investing today for tomorrow's Europe", as well as the three accompanying legislative proposals. The Committee had a first exchange of views on these proposals.

- Any other business
  - Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on interoperability solutions for European public administrations (ISA)
    - **Information from the Presidency**

The Presidency informed the delegations that the ITRE vote on this file will take place on 9 March 2009. The Presidency does not expect major difficulties in the negotiations but will come back to the Committee if such difficulties arise.

- Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending **(b)** Directive 2003/88/EC concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time (Second reading)
  - **Information from the Presidency**

La Présidence informe <u>le Comité</u> de l'état du dossier.

5760/09 lb 13 **CAB**