



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 15 March 2012

7000/12

CRS/CRP 8

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2398th meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
(Part 1) held in Brussels on 29 February 2012**

SUMMARY

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I

2. Replies to written questions put to the Council by Members of the European Parliament
- (a) n° E-012490/2011 put by Sophia in 't Veld, Baroness Sarah Ludford and Marietje Schaake
"Impact of the US National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on the EU legal order"
 - (b) n° E-012598/2011 put by Adrian Severin
"PCE/PEC - EU's failure to sign the Association Agreement with Ukraine"
 - (c) n° E-000054/2012 put by Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou
"Balanced development and coordination of country policies in the euro area and out of it"
 - (d) n° P-000174/2012 put by Silvia-Adriana Țicău
"Danish EU Presidency- Lifting labour market barriers to Bulgarians and Romanians"
 - (e) n° E-000339/2012 put by Vilija Blinkevičiūtė
"Prospects for the directive on maternity leave"
3. Commission delegated Regulation (EU) N° .../... of 16.1.2012 supplementing Directive 2010/31/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the energy performance of buildings (recast) by establishing a comparative methodology framework for calculating cost-optimum levels of minimum energy performance for buildings and building elements
4. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on public procurement
5. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors
6. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the award of concession contracts
7. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1185/2003 on the removal of fins of sharks on board vessels (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)
8. Governing Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
Appointment of Mr Ivan KOKALOV, Bulgarian member, in place of Ms Ketī KOYNAKOVA, who has resigned

9. Governing Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
Appointment of Mr Oleg CHULEV, Bulgarian alternate member, in place of Mr Ivan KOKALOV, who has resigned
10. Governing Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP)
Appointment of Mr Jean-Marc HUART (FR), member in the category of Government representatives
11. Draft Council Decision No .../2012 renewing the term of office of the Vice-President of the Community Plant Variety Office
12. (poss.) Draft Council Decision on the conclusion of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the European Union and the International Civil Aviation Organisation providing a framework for enhanced cooperation, and laying down procedural arrangements related thereto
13. Draft Council Decision to authorise the Commission to negotiate an agreement between the European Union, Norway and Switzerland in the form of revised exchanges of letters concerning products manufactured in beneficiary countries of the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) incorporating materials originating in Norway, Switzerland or Turkey, providing that these products shall be treated upon their arrival on the customs territory of the Community as products originating in the GSP beneficiary countries, and concerning the mutual acceptance of replacement proofs of origin (certificates of origin Form A and statements on origin)
14. EU contribution to the revision of the World Anti-Doping Code
15. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the export and import of hazardous chemicals (Recast) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)
16. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a single European railway area (Recast) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)
 - Adoption of
 - (a) the Council's position in first reading
 - (b) the statement of the Council's reasons

II

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1. Adoption of the provisional agenda and items "I"
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The above-mentioned agenda is approved.

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

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II

17. **Setting of the provisional agenda for the Council meeting (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 22 March 2012**

The Committee agreed the provisional agenda for the next TTE Council meeting on 22 March 2012 (doc. 7553/12).

18. **Setting of the provisional agenda for the Council meeting (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 19 and 20 March 2012 (For the items in the remit of the Permanent Representative Committee)**

The Committee agreed the provisional agenda for the forthcoming Council meeting (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 19 and 20 March 2012 as set out in 7524/12.

19. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union (Recast) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**

- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**

12639/11 TELECOM 99 COMPET 352 MI 355 CONSOM 116 CODEC 1182

+ REV 1 (en, fr, de)

6865/12 TELECOM 39 COMPET 113 MI 124 CONSOM 23 CODEC 474

The Committee granted the Presidency a general mandate to start the negotiations with the European Parliament.

20. **Preparation for the Council meeting (Environment) on 9 March 2012**

1. **Rio + 20: Pathways to a sustainable future (*Non-legislative activity*)**

- **Adoption of Council conclusions**

6819/12 ENV 139 DEVGEN 42 RELEX 162 ONU 19 ECOFIN 186

The Committee held an exchange of views on the revised text of draft Council conclusions tabled by the Presidency. Some of the outstanding issues were settled. At the end of the debate, the Chairman noted a number of reserves and scrutiny reserves and announced that a revised text of the draft conclusions will be prepared for Council (Environment) on 9 March 2012. Ministers will be expected to focus their debate on the main outstanding issues, ie the list of priority areas for action and the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

2. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)

- Orientation debate

18627/11 ENV 976 ENER 410 CADREFIN 207 CODEC 2445

+ REV 1 (el)

6820/12 ENV 140 ENER 68 CADREFIN 108 CODEC 465

The Presidency introduced the questions and informed delegations that Ministers will be allowed 2 minutes to intervene on this point. In view of this, the Presidency invited delegations to submit any replies in writing before the Council.

Some Member States took the floor to inform the Committee that their Ministers will touch upon other issues than those highlighted by the Presidency in their questions, and mainly the distribution of funding between "projects" and "administrative expenditure" as well as the role of Member State concerns on the deletion of the national allocations. It was also noted that, the first Presidency question was somewhat premature as the concept of 'geographical balance' still needs to be clarified.

3. Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2001/18/EC as regards the possibility for the Member States to restrict or prohibit the cultivation of GMOs in their territory (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)

- Political agreement

6761/12 ENV 131 AGRILEG 22 AGRI 100 MI 118 DENLEG 21 CODEC 442

The Committee felt that the text presented by the Presidency (doc. 6761/12) and delegations' comments constitute a good basis for a political debate at the next (Environment) Council with a view to reaching a Political Agreement.

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