



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 22 March 2013

7270/13

CRS/CRP 9

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2443rd meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 6 and 8 March 2013**

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

doc. 7037/13 OJ/CRP1 9

7068/2/13 REV 2 OJ/CRP2 9 COMIX 140

The above-mentioned agendas are approved with the following changes :

The following items are **added** :

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

37. Iran

7109/13 PESC 257 RELEX 191 COMEM 50 COHOM 34

- **Council Decision amending Decision 2011/235/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Iran**

7030/13 PESC 241 COMEM 47 COHOM 32 OC 114

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

- **Council implementing Regulation implementing Article 12(1) of Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran**

7031/13 PESC 242 RELEX 182 COMEM 48 COHOM 33 OC 115

+ ADD 1 RESTREINT UE

38. Bosnia and Herzegovina

- **Council Decision amending Decision 2011/173/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

7101/13 PESC 255 COWEB 32 FIN 115

6990/13 PESC 238 COWEB 26 FIN 108 OC 103

39. Egypt

- **Council Decision amending Decision 2011/172/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Egypt**

7097/13 PESC 254 COMAG 30 FIN 114

6987/13 PESC 237 COMAG 28 FIN 107 OC 102

41. Draft Council conclusions on Pakistan

7107/13 COASI 29 ASIE 8 COPS 95 PESC 256

The following item is **withdrawn**:

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

- 25. Proposal for a Council Decision on the Union position within the Joint Committee established by the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on Trade and Co-operation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority (PA) of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, with regard to the adoption of a Recommendation on the implementation of the EU-PA ENP Action Plan**
6995/13 OLP 1 MED 6 PESC 239 OC 104

The following CRP2 agenda item is **transferred** from Part I to Part II :

- 40. (poss.) Draft Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate the Arms Trade Treaty in the framework of the United Nations on those matters coming under the exclusive competence of the Union"**
6975/13 COARM 33 CODUN 16 PESC 233 COMER 48 RESTREINT UE

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

Coreper Part 1

II

8. Horizon 2020

- (a) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council establishing Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- (b) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in 'Horizon 2020' - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee has been informed on the outcome of the informal trilogue with the European Parliament on the Horizon 2020 proposals.

- ### 9. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down Union Customs Code (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee took note of the debriefing by the Presidency on the outcome of the first informal trilogue on 27 February 2013.

- ### 10. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Connecting Europe Facility (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
6797/13 TRANS 77 FIN 96 CADREFIN 42 POLGEN 27 REGIO 25 ENER 56
TELECOM 31 COMPET 111 MI 141 ECO 29 CODEC 414

The Committee:

- examined the EP amendments and the related Presidency compromise proposals;
- gave the Presidency a mandate for the first informal trilogue on the above proposal with a view to a first reading agreement with the European Parliament.

11. **Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council derogating temporarily from Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
6918/13 ENV 158 AVIATION 33 MI 159 IND 43 ENER 65 CODEC 449

The Committee considered the Presidency compromise suggestions set out in 6918/13 and gave the Presidency a mandate for negotiating with the European Parliament at the informal trilogue foreseen on 12 March 2013 in Strasbourg, with a view to a first reading agreement on the file.

12. **Preparation of the Council meeting (Environment) on 21 March 2013**

1. **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
 - **Orientation debate**
15627/12 ENV 825 CODEC 2533
+ REV 1 (bg)
6853/13 ENV 151 CODEC 428
2. **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels and amending Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
 - **Orientation debate**
15189/12 ENV 789 ENER 417 ENT 257 TRANS 346 AGRI 686
POLGEN 170 CODEC 2432
6854/13 ENV 152 ENER 63 ENT 61 TRANS 80 AGRI 116
POLGEN 30 CODEC 429
3. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on "Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization in the Union" (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
 - **Orientation debate**
14641/12 ENV 750 AGRI 650 WTO 321 PI 116 DEVGEN 272 MI 604
SAN 221 CODEC 2335
+ COR 1
6889/13 ENV 154 AGRI 122 WTO 52 PI 34 DEVGEN 56 MI 154 SAN 73
CODEC 441

The Committee took note of the questions prepared by the Presidency to structure the orientation debates.

- 4. REACH (*Non-legislative activity*)**
- (a) Report on the Review of the REACH Regulation**
 - (b) Communication from the Commission on "Second Regulatory Review on Nanomaterials"**
 - **Presentation by the Commission**
 - **Exchange of views**
6916/13 ENV 157 COMPET 116 IND 48 RECH 48 ECOFIN 157 ECO 32
SOC 138 SAN 76 CONSOM 28 MI 158 CHIMIE 20 ENT 65

The Committee agreed on the Presidency questions for the Council exchange of views foreseen on 21 March 2013.

- 13. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing the Creative Europe Programme (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
6855/13 AUDIO 11 CULT 17 CADREFIN 45 RELEX 171 CODEC 430
+ ADD 1

The Committee authorised the Presidency to start discussions with the European Parliament and the Commission in the context of an informal trilogue and it approved the text contained in the addendum (ADD 1) to document 6855/13 as a basis for such a negotiation.

Coreper Part 2

II

28. Preparation of the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 11 March 2013

a) Preparation of the European Council on 14/15 March 2013

- **Draft conclusions**
5641/13 CO EUR-PREP 7

The Committee examined the draft conclusions of the European Council on 14/15 March 2013.

b) Implementation of the European Semester

- **Synthesis report**
6754/13 CO EUR-PREP 11 POLGEN 26 ENV 143 ENER 54 MI 135
RECH 46 COMPET 107 IND 45 ECOFIN 144 SOC 121
EDUC 59 TELECOM 30

The Committee took note of the Presidency's Synthesis report on the European Semester. An updated version of the report will be submitted to the Council.

c) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

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

29. Follow-up to the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 5 March 2013

- The day before the Council, at the Macro-economic Dialogue, the presidency troika, Commission, European Central Bank and president of the Eurogroup had an exchange of views with the social partners on the economic, fiscal, monetary and other policies of the ECB and Council.
- At the ECOFIN breakfast, Ministers were debriefed on the Eurogroup meeting the day before and had an exchange of views on the economic situation.
- This was followed by an informal session, during which Ministers first had an exchange of views on the options for lengthening maturities of EFSF / ESM loans to Portugal and Ireland.

- Ministers then had an informal discussion on the CRD 4 compromise package.
- At the ECOFIN, the Council gave political endorsement to a compromise package on five key issues provisionally reached with the European Parliament on 27 February on two proposals, the so-called "CRD 4" package, amending EU rules on capital requirements for banks and investment firms.
- The Council examined a presidency compromise package aimed at better and more rapidly combating VAT fraud. The presidency announced its intention to carry work forward on the package at technical level.
- The Council also welcomed a compromise reached with the European Parliament on the two pack - two legislative proposals aimed at further strengthening economic governance in the EU.
- Ministers adopted conclusions on an important policy theme of the European Semester - the quality of public spending.
- The Council held an exchange of views on the further development of the EU's economic and monetary union, ahead of the European Council's meeting on 14 and 15 March 2013.
- The Council took stock of the outcome of a meeting of G-20 finance ministers and central bank governors held in Moscow on 15 and 16 February 2013.
- Finally, under any other business, the Presidency informed the Council of developments with regard to the following legislative dossiers:
 - Bank supervision (single supervisory mechanism);
 - Bank recovery and resolution;
 - Markets in financial instruments ("MIFID");
 - Mortgage credit.

30. Preparation of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 11 March 2013

- Russia

The Committee took note of information provided by the EEAS on the handling of this item at the Council, which would focus on the domestic situation in Russia, EU-Russia bilateral relations and EU cooperation with Russia on foreign policy issues.

- **Southern Neighbourhood**
 - a) **Tunisia**
 - b) **Egypt**
 - c) **Syria**

The Executive Secretary General of the EEAS informed the Committee of the way in which the High Representative intends to conduct the exchange of views on Southern Neighbourhood. The discussion on Syria will be taking place over lunch, in the presence of the UN Special Envoy for Syria Lakhdar Brahimi.

- **Japan**

The EEAS SG Pierre Vimont indicated that ministers will have an exchange of views on Japan in view of the EU-Japan Summit on 25 March 2013. Negotiations for an EU-Japan Framework Agreement and a Free Trade Agreement are expected to be launched at the Summit.

- **(poss.) Iran**

The Executive Secretary General of the EEAS informed the Committee of the way in which the High Representative intends to debrief Ministers on the latest E3+3 talks in Almaty.

- **(poss.) Kenya**

The Committee was informed that the item may be addressed at the forthcoming Foreign Affairs Council depending on the developments in Kenya after the elections of 4 March 2013.

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

The Executive Secretary General of the EEAS informed the Committee of the way in which the High Representative intends to conduct the exchange of views at the Foreign Affairs Council on 11 March 2013.

31. Debrief EU-Ukraine Summit (Brussels, 25 February 2013)

The Committee heard a debrief by the European External Action Service and the Commission on the outcome of the EU-Ukraine Summit. Delegations took note that the Summit had been encouraging in some respects, while it remained to be seen whether tangible progress with regard to all the conditions set in the Council conclusions of 10 December 2012 would be made by Ukraine in good time to allow the possible signature of the Association Agreement, including DCFTA, by the time of the Vilnius Eastern Partnership Summit in November 2013.

32. Preparation of the Council meeting (Justice and Home Affairs) on 7/8 March 2013

- a) **(poss.) Draft Council Decision on the framework for the full application of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania**
 - **Adoption**
6777/13 SCH-EVAL 18 COMIX 115

The Committee took note of the outcome of the discussion in the Mixed Committee (doc. 7562/13).

b) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Chair informed the Committee on handling of the other business at the Council.

33. Participation of the European Union in the Council of Europe Group of States against corruption (GRECO)
6826/13 GENVAL 85 DROIPEN 22 COSCE 2

The Committee confirmed the Council position as regards the participation of the EU in GRECO, namely that the Commission should submit as soon as possible a recommendation for a Council decision authorising negotiations on behalf of the Union for the EU accession to GRECO, i.e. full membership, as provided under Article 218 TFEU. The Presidency was entrusted to inform the Council of Europe about the position of the Council.

34. Negotiations for the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Union and the Russian Federation, amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Russian Federation on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to the citizens of the European Union and the Russian Federation
6929/13 VISA 50 COEST 45 RESTREINT UE

The outcome of proceedings is set out in 7366/13 RESTREINT UE.

35. Relations with the European Parliament (March 2013)

6845/13 PE 92 INST 107 POLGEN 29 CODEC 425

The Committee held a discussion on relations with the European Parliament on the basis of the document 6845/13.

36. Multi-annual Financial Framework (restricted session)

The Chair updated the Committee - in a restricted session - on the MFF file and the discussions with the European Parliament.

40. Draft Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate the Arms Trade Treaty in the framework of the United Nations on those matters coming under the exclusive competence of the Union

6975/13 COARM 33 CODUN 16 PESC 233 COMER 48 RESTREINT UE

The Committee reached agreement on the draft Council Decision as set out in 7179/13 RESTREINT UE.

- Any other business

(a) European Council follow-up (Coreper 1 matters)/SMA

- Information from the Presidency

Presidency informed the Committee on the state of play of Single Market Act I and II files.

(b) Implementation of the European Semester (Synthesis report)

- Information from the Presidency

6754/13 CO EUR-PREP 11 POLGEN 26 ENV 143 ENER 54 MI 135 RECH 46
COMPET 107 IND 45 ECOFIN 144 SOC 121 EDUC 59 TELECOM 30

Presidency informed the Committee on the Synthesis report it had prepared on the Council discussions on the Annual Growth Survey and the Commission informed on the dates of the next round of bilateral meetings under the European semester.

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