



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 13 April 2010

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PUBLIC 18

NOTE

Subject: MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS MARCH 2010

This document consists of the following:

- ANNEX I containing a list of acts adopted by the Council in March 2010.^{1 2}
- ANNEX II containing further details on the adoption of these acts. PART I provides information on the adoption of legislative acts, such as the date of adoption, the relevant Council session, the number of the document adopted, and where appropriate, applicable voting rules, voting results, explanations of vote and statements published in the minutes of the Council. PART II provides information that the Council has decided to make public on the adoption of other acts.

¹ With the exception of certain acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, decisions of bodies set up by international agreements, specific budgetary decisions, etc.

² In the case of legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure, there may be a difference between the date of the Council's meeting where the legislative act is adopted and the actual date of the act in question, since legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure are only considered to have been adopted after signature by both the President of the Council and the President of the European Parliament and the Secretaries-General of the two Institutions.

This document is also available via the Internet (<http://consilium.europa.eu/>) see under "Documents", "Legislative Transparency", "Summary of Council Acts". Documents listed in the summary may be obtained from the public register of Council documents (Access to Council documents: Public Register).

It should be noted that only the minutes concerning the definitive adoption of legislative acts are authentic (available via the Internet: <http://consilium.europa.eu/> , see under "Documents", "Legislative Transparency", "Council Minutes").

**LIST OF ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL
IN MARCH 2010**

2999th meeting of the Council of the European Union (COMPETITIVENESS - INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH), held in Brussels on 1 and 2 March 2010

Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market (Text with EEA relevance)

5885/4/10 REV 4

2010/129/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/129/CFSP of 1 March 2010 amending Common Position 2008/109/CFSP concerning restrictive measures imposed against Liberia

OJ L 51, 2.3.2010, p. 23–23

2010/126/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/126/CFSP of 1 March 2010 amending Common Position 2009/138/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Somalia

OJ L 51, 2.3.2010, p. 18–18

2010/127/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/127/CFSP of 1 March 2010 concerning restrictive measures against Eritrea

OJ L 51, 2.3.2010, p. 19–21

2010/128/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/128/CFSP of 1 March 2010 amending Common Position 2003/495/CFSP on Iraq

OJ L 51, 2.3.2010, p. 22–22

Council Regulation (EU) No 168/2010 of 1 March 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 1210/2003 concerning certain specific restrictions on economic and financial relations with Iraq

OJ L 51, 2.3.2010, p. 1–1

Implementing Regulation of the Council (EU) No 195/2010 of 1 March 2010 amending Regulation (EU) No 1202/2009 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of furfuryl alcohol originating in the People's Republic of China following a new exporter review pursuant to Article 11(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009

OJ L 60, 10.3.2010, p. 1–4

Council Conclusions on the need for a new industrial policy
6279/3/10 REV 3 + REV 3 COR 2

Council Resolution of 1 March 2010 on the enforcement of intellectual property rights in the internal market

OJ C 56, 6.3.2010, p. 1–4

Council Conclusions on the Review of the European Research Council's Structures and Mechanisms
6666/10

Council Conclusions on European researchers' mobility and careers
6362/2/10 REV 2

3000th meeting of the Council of the European Union (EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH and CONSUMER AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 8 and 9 March 2010

Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the application of the principle of equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity in a self-employed capacity and repealing Directive 86/613/EEC
17279/3/09 REV 3

Decision of the European Parliament and the Council establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for Employment and Social Inclusion
PE-CONS 4/10 + REV 1 (de)

Decision of the European Parliament and the Council amending Decision No 1672/2006/EC establishing a Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - Progress
PE-CONS 3/10

Council Directive 2010/18/EU of 8 March 2010 implementing the revised Framework Agreement on parental leave concluded by BUSINESSEUROPE, UEAPME, CEEP and ETUC and repealing Directive 96/34/EC (Text with EEA relevance)
OJ L 68, 18.3.2010, p. 13–20

Council Conclusions on systems for collecting information on drugs
6607/10 + COR 1 (de)

2010/145/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/145/CFSP of 8 March 2010 renewing measures in support of the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)
OJ L 58, 9.3.2010, p. 8–16

Council Conclusions on the Eradication of Violence Against Women in the European Union
6585/10 + REV 1 (hu) + REV 2 (pt)

3001st meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS and ENERGY), held in Brussels on 11 and 12 March 2010

Regulation of the European parliament and of the Council concerning the rights of passengers in bus and coach transport and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 (Text with EEA relevance)
5218/10 + COR 1 (nl) + REV 1 (hu) + REV 2 (cs)

Regulation of the European parliament and of the Council concerning the rights of passengers when travelling by sea and inland waterway and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 (Text with EEA relevance)
14849/3/09 REV 3

Council Decision concerning the position of the European Union regarding draft Decision 1/2003 and draft Recommendation 1/2003 of the Joint Committee set up under the Interbus Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus
6087/10

Council Decision on the signing on behalf of the Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the Faroes on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, associating the Faroe Islands to the Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (2007-2013)
5475/10 + COR 1 (hu) + REV 1 (mt)

2010/197/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/197/CFSP of 31 March 2010 on the launch of a European Union military mission to contribute to the training of Somali security forces (EUTM Somalia)
OJ L 87, 7.4.2010, p. 33–33

2010/179/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/179/CFSP of 11 March 2010 in support of SEESAC arms control activities in the Western Balkans, in the framework of the EU Strategy to combat the illicit accumulation and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition
OJ L 80, 26.3.2010, p. 48–51

Council Conclusions on the Commission Communication "Investing in the Development of Low Carbon Technologies (SET Plan)"
6688/10 + COR 1

3002nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ENVIRONMENT), held in Brussels on 15 March 2010

Regulation of the European parliament and of the Council on novel foods, amending Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 258/97 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1852/2001 (Text with EEA relevance)
11261/3/09 REV 3

Council Regulation (EU) No 219/2010 of 15 March 2010 amending Regulation (EU) No 53/2010 as regards the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and following the conclusion of the bilateral fisheries arrangements for 2010 with Norway and the Faroe Islands
OJ L 71, 19.3.2010, p. 1–38

Council Conclusions on Climate change: Follow-up to the Copenhagen Conference (7-19 December 2009)
7562/10

Council Conclusions on Biodiversity: Post-2010 EU and global vision and targets and international ABS regime
7536/10

3003rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ECONOMIC and FINANCIAL AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 15 March 2010

Council Directive 2010/23/EU of 16 March 2010 amending Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax, as regards an optional and temporary application of the reverse charge mechanism in relation to supplies of certain services susceptible to fraud
OJ L 72, 20.3.2010, p. 1–2

Council Directive 2010/24/EU of 16 March 2010 concerning mutual assistance for the recovery of claims relating to taxes, duties and other measures
OJ L 84, 31.3.2010, p. 1–12

Council Decision on the allocation of financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) for the establishment of the gross national income (GNI) used for the purposes of the European Union's budget and its own resources
5946/10 + COR 1 (et) + REV 1 (ro)

Council Conclusions on Europe 2020
7586/10

Council Conclusions on financial exit
7587/10

Council Conclusions on exit strategies for crisis-related measures in labour and product markets
7588/10

Council Conclusions on the financing of climate change
7591/10

Council Conclusions on the budget guidelines for 2011
6794/10

3004th meeting of the Council of the European Union (GENERAL AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 22 March 2010

Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Montenegro on the participation of Montenegro in the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Operation Atalanta)
6976/10

3005th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 22 March 2010

Regulation (EU) No 265/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 March 2010 amending the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulation (EC)

No 562/2006 as regards movement of persons with a long-stay visa

OJ L 85, 31.3.2010, p. 1–4

2010/168/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/168/CFSP of 22 March 2010 appointing the European Union Special Representative in Afghanistan

OJ L 75, 23.3.2010, p. 22–24

Council Declaration on Free access to information in Iran

7644/10

Council Conclusions - EU position for the New York International Conference on Haiti

7603/10

Council Conclusions on Afghanistan

7585/10

3006th meeting of the Council of the European Union (AGRICULTURE and FISHERIES), held in Brussels on 29 March 2010

Regulation of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 452/2007 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of ironing boards originating, inter alia, in the People's Republic of China

7330/10

Council Decision amending and extending Decision 2007/641/EC on the conclusion of consultations with the Republic of Fiji Islands under Article 96 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement and Article 37 of the Development Cooperation Instrument

6984/10

2010/186/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/186/CFSP of 29 March 2010 amending Common Position 2009/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Republic of Guinea

OJ L 83, 30.3.2010, p. 23–23

Council and Commission Decision on the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Montenegro, of the other part

11568/1/07 REV 1

Written procedure completed on 31 March 2010

Council Decision on the launch of a European Union military mission to contribute to the training of Somali security forces (EUTM Somalia)

7574/10

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
2999th meeting of the Council of the European Union (COMPETITIVENESS - INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH), held in Brussels on 1 and 2 March 2010 Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market (Text with EEA relevance)	5885/4/10 REV 4	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour except: against: NL abstention: BE, DK, ES, UK
Statement by Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Finland and Sweden When implementing this Regulation, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Finland and Sweden will endeavour to facilitate the ability of the operators to comply with the requirements of this Regulation, taking specifically into account the situation of small and medium sized enterprises/operators.			
Statement by the United Kingdom, Denmark, Belgium and Spain The United Kingdom, Denmark, Belgium and Spain regret that the Council position is not more ambitious and we remain of the view that the EU must signal strong and firm leadership on this issue. We believe that the Regulation must contain a prohibition on the first placing of illegal timber on the European Union market. This would complement the due diligence approach and enable Member States to take action against operators that place illegal timber on the market. We urge the Council to work with the European Parliament to achieve an ambitious regulation which ensures illegal timber cannot be placed on the market.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the Slovak Republic The timber products set out in the Annex to the Regulation differ in the complexity of the supply chain, which is mainly determined by the number of phases in their industrial processing and by the number of their constituent components. The complexity of the supply chain of those timber products set out in the Annex therefore represents one of the key factors that influence the ability of operators, monitoring organisations and competent authorities to comply with the requirements of this Regulation and, in this regard, affects the proper, efficient and effective implementation of the Regulation. Statement by the Commission 1. In connection with Articles 12 and 18 the Commission undertakes to submit an evaluation on the current EU economic and trade situation of the products under Chapter 49 of the EU Customs Code, in order to consider their possible inclusion in the list of products annexed to the present Regulation. The Commission will also endeavour to facilitate the ability of operators to comply with the requirements of this Regulation, taking specifically into account the situation of small and medium sized enterprises/operators. 2. The Commission welcomes the agreement reached in the Council on the Regulation on the placing on the market of timber and timber products. In this context the Commission takes note of the new recital 23 on the consultation of experts in the preparatory phase of delegated acts. The Commission considers that expert groups cannot have a formal institutional role. Therefore provisions as regards the involvement of experts in the preparation of delegated acts cannot be included in the basic acts. In this regard the Commission refers to its Communication of 9 December 2009. In order to allow the legislative process to move forward with a view to the timely adoption of this Regulation, the Commission will not oppose the common position of the Council given that the substance of the compromise reached, taken as a whole, meets the objectives of the proposal. The Commission reserves its right to come back to the above mentioned recital in second reading also taking into account the position of the European Parliament on this matter.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the Netherlands The Netherlands considers it very important that the international community seek to prohibit trade in illegal timber. In the Netherlands' view, the EU should lead the way in the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) in tackling the problem of illegal timber and seeking to introduce an international ban on trade therein. With that in mind, the Netherlands believes that the Commission proposal as it now stands must be strengthened by the addition of a ban on trade in illegal timber that is workable, in line with FLEGT and consistent with the WTO framework. Accordingly, the Netherlands is unable to agree to the proposal tabled by the Presidency and calls on the Council to continue working on the proposal with the European Parliament in order to arrive at a ban on trade in illegal timber.			
3000th meeting of the Council of the European Union (EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH and CONSUMER AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 8 and 9 March 2010 Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the application of the principle of equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity in a self-employed capacity and repealing Directive 86/613/EEC	17279/3/09 REV 3	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour except: abstention: DE, HU, UK
Statement by the Belgian delegation re Article 7(4) The Belgian delegation states that its voucher system ("titres-services") is to be considered as a national social service for the purposes of Article 7(4).			
Decision of the European Parliament and the Council establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for Employment and Social Inclusion	PE-CONS 4/10 + REV 1 (de)	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour except: against: DE

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the Commission Re: Financing of the European Microfinance Facility The financial contribution from the Union budget for the Facility for the period 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2013 has been set at EUR 100 million, to be partly financed by a reduction of EUR 60 million in the Progress programme. When presenting its draft budget(s), the Commission will leave a sufficient unallocated margin under the expenditure ceiling of Heading 1a whereby the Budgetary Authority i.e. the Council and the Parliament, may decide to increase the amount of the Progress programme by a maximum of EUR 20 million over the period 2011-2013 in conformity with point 37 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 on budgetary discipline and sound financial management.			
Decision of the European Parliament and the Council amending Decision No 1672/2006/EC establishing a Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - Progress	PE-CONS 3/10	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour except: against: DE
Statement by the Commission Re: Financing of the European Microfinance Facility The financial contribution from the Union budget for the Facility for the period 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2013 has been set at EUR 100 million, to be partly financed by a reduction of EUR 60 million in the Progress programme. When presenting its draft budget(s), the Commission will leave a sufficient unallocated margin under the expenditure ceiling of Heading 1a whereby the Budgetary Authority i.e. Council and Parliament, may decide to increase the amount of the Progress programme by a maximum of EUR 20 million over the period 2011-2013 in conformity with point 37 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 on budgetary discipline and sound financial management.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
3001st meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS and ENERGY), held in Brussels on 11 and 12 March 2010 Regulation of the European parliament and of the Council concerning the rights of passengers in bus and coach transport and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 (Text with EEA relevance)	5218/10 + COR 1 (nl) + REV 1 (hu) + REV 2 (cs)	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour
Statement by Spain The Kingdom of Spain supports the principles underlying the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the rights of passengers in bus and coach transport and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 on cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protection laws. However, it considers that it would have been preferable for a period of no more than twenty-four hours to be set for the obligation to provide advance notification of the need for assistance for persons with reduced mobility, as it feels that a twenty-four-hour period would be a more favourable one for the assistance to be provided to such passengers, as well as a sufficient period for the bus or coach station manager to be able to plan such assistance. Statement by the Commission The Commission declares that, despite the fact that the political agreement does not entirely meet certain important objectives of its initial proposal, it intends not to oppose this agreement in order to ensure the continuation of the ordinary legislative procedure.			
Regulation of the European parliament and of the Council concerning the rights of passengers when travelling by sea and inland waterway and amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 (Text with EEA relevance)	14849/3/09 REV 3	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by Greece The Hellenic Republic fully and unequivocally supports the aims of the proposal for a Regulation concerning the rights of passengers when travelling by sea and inland waterways, which has special importance for shipping countries, such as Greece, particularly insofar as it strengthens and makes more effective the protection of the rights of the large numbers of passengers travelling each year. However, the Hellenic Republic wishes to state that, in its opinion, the proposal for a Regulation should show greater balance between the fundamental rights of passengers, which it protects well, and the legitimate interests of sea carriers (especially small and medium-sized enterprises) which, in certain cases (force majeure, exceptional circumstances), incur excessive costs through no fault of their own. In particular, the Hellenic Republic considers that the exemptions set out in Article 20a (13874/09), and especially in paragraph 3 thereof, should in addition include the obligation to provide accommodation (Article 18(2)) also in the event of exceptional circumstances such as search and rescue operations, transport of sick persons, incidents involving the safety of the ship and passengers and coverage of extraordinary transport needs, which are crucial for the effective functioning of the very extensive Greek coastal network.			
3002nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ENVIRONMENT), held in Brussels on 15 March 2010 Regulation of the European parliament and of the Council on novel foods, amending Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 258/97 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1852/2001 (Text with EEA relevance)	11261/3/09 REV 3	Unanimity	All Member States in favour except: abstention: EL, UK

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the 24 Member States* concerning all aspects of cloning techniques of animals We note the Council agreement on the fact that cloning techniques of animals, such as the somatic nuclear cell transfer technique, have specific characteristics that imply that the Novel Food Regulation cannot manage all the issues of cloning. We also note that the majority of Member States are of the view that food produced from animals obtained by using a cloning technique and from their offspring should be regulated by specific legislation. Consequently, such foods should be excluded from the scope of the Novel Food Regulation as soon as specific legislation has become applicable. In the meantime, and in order to avoid any legislative gaps, those foods should be covered by the scope of the Novel Food Regulation. In this context all relevant aspects of the cloning technique, in particular animal health, animal welfare, ethical questions, food safety and trade related aspects should be carefully assessed. In view of the result of this assessment, we note the agreement of the majority of the Member States to request the Commission to submit to the Council and to the European Parliament a proposal for specific legislation concerning all aspects of cloning techniques. Statement by the United Kingdom and the Netherlands The Netherlands and the United Kingdom wish to put on record why we could not add our support to the statement tabled by the 24 Member States and in particular wish to emphasise the importance of adhering to the principle that legislation should be evidence-based and that legislative solutions should not be decided before completing detailed assessments. In their statement, the Member States request the Commission to submit to the Council and to the European Parliament a proposal for specific legislation concerning all aspects of cloning techniques. The Netherlands and the UK recognise that specific legislation might be needed governing food produced from animals using a cloning technique and from their offspring. However, until such time as the Commission has undertaken an assessment of the need for such legislation and submitted a report to the Council and EP as foreseen in Article 24(2) of the text at first reading, we believe it is premature to call for wide ranging legislation until the outcome of the Commission report is known and, if necessary, a detailed impact assessment has been produced.			

* Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by Greece Greece abstains from the vote on the Council position at first reading on a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods and amending Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 258/97 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1852/2001. Greece considers that food produced from animals bred using cloning techniques and from their offspring should not be included in the scope of the above proposal. We believe that in order to protect human health, the health and well-being of animals and the sustainability of the environment, the placing of such foods on the internal market should be prohibited. This position is dictated by, among others, the need to apply the precautionary principle since, based on scientific evidence to date, potential future dangers arising from the application of animal cloning techniques to food production cannot be ruled out. We would further emphasise that our position reflects the great sensitivity and negative attitude of Greek public opinion as a whole with regard to the issue of food from cloned animals. Statement by Germany During the discussions on adapting the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on novel foods to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), Germany expressed major reservations on the envisaged approach i.e. inclusion, on the one hand, of novel foods within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 establishing a common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings but provision, on the other, of another authorisation procedure for the substances already falling under the Regulation. Germany still has those reservations. Nevertheless, in order not to stand in the way of a compromise solution or the adoption of a common position, withdrawing its reservations, Germany supports the approach proposed for adapting the Regulation to the TFEU. However, Germany continues to take the view that there is no justification for adapting specific points of Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 by means of a special regulation on novel foods. A key aim of the review of Regulation (EC) No 258/97 is to extend the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 on novel foods, thus applying the authorisation procedure under Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 to novel foods. The approach currently proposed will not achieve the intended aim of harmonising the authorisation procedure in the food sector. Moreover, clarification is still required on a number of horizontal questions which could also be of vital importance to the current legislative proposals.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the Commission The Council's political agreement of June 2009 considered that the adaptation of the definition of engineered nanomaterials to the scientific and technical progress and to the definitions subsequently agreed at international level should be made in accordance to the regulatory procedure with scrutiny. In the current Council's position at first reading the adaptation of this definition is limited to the adoption of further criteria to clarify it. First, this modification implies that any adaptation of the definition itself would only be possible through the ordinary legislative procedure. The Commission opposes to this limitation as it would prevent this definition to reflect the best state of science and would have negative consequences for the innovation in the food industry. In addition, the Commission opposes the adoption of further criteria to clarify definitions through implementing acts pursuant to Article 291 TFEU. The Commission considers that the adoption of these criteria implies supplementing non essential elements of the Regulation and thus they should be adopted through delegated acts pursuant to Article 290 TFEU. This applies to definitions laid down in Article 3(2)(a)(i) to (iv) on sub-categories of novel foods, to Article 3(2)(c) on engineered nanomaterials, and to Article 3(2)(d) and (e) related to traditional foods from third countries.			
3003rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ECONOMIC and FINANCIAL AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 15 March 2010 Council Directive 2010/23/EU of 16 March 2010 amending Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax, as regards an optional and temporary application of the reverse charge mechanism in relation to supplies of certain services susceptible to fraud	5984/6/10 REV 6	Unanimity	All Member States in favour

**INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS
MARCH 2010**

TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the Council The Council will continue to work on other elements of the proposal as regards the application of the reverse charge mechanism to mobile phones and electronic circuit devices with a view to reaching an agreement as soon as possible. Pending agreement on that proposal, in the case of a founded request by a member state according to article 395 of the VAT directive (2006/112) for the application of the reverse charge mechanism to mobile phones and electronic circuit devices, the Commission declared that it will present a proposal for a derogation before June 2010. Member states that are at present authorised to apply the reverse charge mechanism on mobile phones and electronic circuit devices will be allowed to continue to apply that until agreement is reached on a new decision or new directive. Statement by Belgium, France and Italy Paragraph 3 of the Council statement should be understood as a mere confirmation that further work on the legislative proposal regarding mobile phones and/or potential derogations to be granted under Article 395 of the VAT directive should not prevent existing derogations in this respect to continue to apply in accordance with their existing conditions. Council Directive 2010/24/EU of 16 March 2010 concerning mutual assistance for the recovery of claims relating to taxes, duties and other measures			
Statement by the Commission The Commission declares that the formulation of Article 4(7) offers different options to Member States on how to best organize internally to guarantee an efficient communication with other Member States. Statement by Austria The Republic of Austria states that the expression "fees" in Article 2(3)(b) of the Council Directive concerning mutual assistance for the recovery of claims relating to taxes, duties and other measures does not cover - irrespective of their classification - payments which citizens make to the state or its territorial or administrative subdivisions according to legal provisions without being entitled to a particular service in return.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
3005th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 22 March 2010 Regulation (EU) No 265/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 March 2010 amending the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 as regards movement of persons with a long-stay visa	PE-CONS 5/10 + COR 1 (sv) + COR 2 (lv) + COR 3 (sl) + REV 1 (sk) + REV 2 (de)	Qualified Majority	All Member States in favour except: abstention: HU, PL, EL
Joint Statement by the European Parliament and the Council The European Parliament and the Council recognise the importance of the existence of a comprehensive and coherent set of rules, at the level of the European Union, providing for a high level of protection of personal data in the framework of the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II). If there would be further, important delays in implementing the SIS II, that will go beyond 2012, the European Parliament and the Council invite the Commission to present the necessary legislative proposals amending the relevant provisions of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement in order to ensure a level of protection of the personal data entered into the Schengen Information System equivalent to the standards established for SIS II. Statement by the Council As it was highlighted by the European Council in Thessaloniki on 19-20 June 2003, "a coherent approach is needed in the EU on biometric identifiers or biometric data, which would result in harmonised solutions for documents for third country nationals, EU citizens' passports and information systems". Therefore, it is desirable that such a harmonised solution would in the future also cover long-stay visas. The Council invites the Commission to study the possible use of biometric identifiers with respect to long-stay visas and to present the results of this study to the European Parliament and the Council by 31 July 2011.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS MARCH 2010			
TITLE OF LEGISLATIVE ACT	TEXTS ADOPTED	VOTING RULE	VOTES
Statement by the German delegation The German delegation endorses the compromise text and agrees to it. However, from Germany's point of view, laying down an obligation to consult central authorities for all nationals for whom such a consultation is required for C-visas would also have been desirable for those for whom a D-visa is to be issued. Statement by the Greek delegation Greece regards the necessity of finding a practical solution to the present situation concerning national visas as important, in order to cover the legislative void created by the hasty repeal of Council Regulation (EC) No 1091/2001 of 28 May 2001 on freedom of movement with a long-stay visa. We share, in principle, the proposed solution, allowing third-country nationals holding valid long-stay visas to travel more freely than presently within the Schengen area, and thus enhancing people-to-people contacts and contributing to economic growth. However, we are of the view that attention should be paid to avoiding the creation of new problems when trying to remedy existing ones. In this vein, Greece has consistently expressed the opinion that, in certain cases, Member States should have the right to limit the possibility of the holder of a national visa to be allowed to circulate freely and should have the right to issue national visas with limited territorial validity (D-LTV). We pointed out that there is a high risk of abusing the right of free movement and, thus, the potential of increased illegal migration pressure that certain categories of third-country nationals present. Every year certain Greek consular authorities issue considerable numbers of such national visas, but Greece should not be held accountable if holders of them, by abusing their right to travel freely, have travelled to another Member State [even if they do not fulfil the requirements in terms of means of subsistence (cf. Article 5, paragraph 1, point (c), of the Schengen Borders Code)]. Furthermore, Greece wishes to draw attention to the fact that applicants may encounter delays in the issuance of long-stay visas due to the provisions of Article 1, point (4), of the Regulation. Greece is of the opinion that Member States should have the option to issue national visas valid only for their territory, in the event of a negative or delayed reply in the consultation procedure under Article 25 of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement (CIS). In the light of the above, Greece is asking the Commission to accelerate the assessment of the newly adopted provisions and submit the report provided for in Article 2b as soon as possible, in order to amend the Regulation so as to enhance its effectiveness and added value by eliminating the possible weaknesses or loopholes described above.			

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
2999th meeting of the Council of the European Union (COMPETITIVENESS - INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH), held in Brussels on 1 and 2 March 2010	
2010/129/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/129/CFSP of 1 March 2010 amending Common Position 2008/109/CFSP concerning restrictive measures imposed against Liberia 5806/10 + COR 1 (de) 2010/126/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/126/CFSP of 1 March 2010 amending Common Position 2009/138/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Somalia 5502/10 2010/127/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/127/CFSP of 1 March 2010 concerning restrictive measures against Eritrea 5534/10 2010/128/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/128/CFSP of 1 March 2010 amending Common Position 2003/495/CFSP on Iraq 5789/10 Council Regulation (EU) No 168/2010 of 1 March 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 1210/2003 concerning certain specific restrictions on economic and financial relations with Iraq 5791/10	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
Implementing Regulation of the Council (EU) No 195/2010 of 1 March 2010 amending Regulation (EU) No 1202/2009 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of furfuryl alcohol originating in the People's Republic of China following a new exporter review pursuant to Article 11(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 6334/10 Council Conclusions on the need for a new industrial policy 6279/3/10 REV 3 + REV 3 COR 2 Council Resolution of 1 March 2010 on the enforcement of intellectual property rights in the internal market 6363/10 Council Conclusions on the Review of the European Research Council's Structures and Mechanisms 6666/10 Council Conclusions on European researchers' mobility and careers 6362/2/10 REV 2	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
3000th meeting of the Council of the European Union (EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH and CONSUMER AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 8 and 9 March 2010	
Council Directive 2010/18/EU of 8 March 2010 implementing the revised Framework Agreement on parental leave concluded by BUSINESSEUROPE, UEAPME, CEEP and ETUC and repealing Directive 96/34/EC (Text with EEA relevance) 16945/09	
Statement by the Latvian delegation Re: The translation of the term "parental leave" into Latvian LATVIA notes that, in the Latvian version of the Council Directive to be adopted, the original English term “parental leave” is translated by the Latvian term “vecāku atvaļinājums”. In the Latvian version of Council Directive 96/34/EC, which is now repealed by this Directive, the English term “parental leave” was translated as “bērna kopšanas atvaļinājums”. LATVIA wishes to point out that these different terms in Latvian by no means reflect any change in substance in relation to the English term “parental leave” as used in the two Directives referred to above.	
Council Conclusions on systems for collecting information on drugs 6607/10 + COR 1 (de)	
2010/145/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/145/CFSP of 8 March 2010 renewing measures in support of the effective implementation of the mandate of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) 6534/10	
Council Conclusions on the Eradication of Violence Against Women in the European Union 6585/10 + REV 1 (hu) + REV 2 (pt)	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
3001st meeting of the Council of the European Union (TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS and ENERGY), held in Brussels on 11 and 12 March 2010 Council Decision concerning the position of the European Union regarding draft Decision 1/2003 and draft Recommendation 1/2003 of the Joint Committee set up under the Interbus Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus 6087/10 Council Decision on the signing on behalf of the Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the Faroes on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, associating the Faroe Islands to the Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (2007-2013) 5475/10 + COR 1 (hu) + REV 1 (mt) 2010/197/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/197/CFSP of 31 March 2010 on the launch of a European Union military mission to contribute to the training of Somali security forces (EUTM Somalia) 2010/179/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/179/CFSP of 11 March 2010 in support of SEESAC arms control activities in the Western Balkans, in the framework of the EU Strategy to combat the illicit accumulation and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition 5379/10 Council Conclusions on the Commission Communication "Investing in the Development of Low Carbon Technologies (SET Plan)" 6688/10 + COR 1	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
3002nd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ENVIRONMENT), held in Brussels on 15 March 2010 Council Regulation (EU) No 219/2010 of 15 March 2010 amending Regulation (EU) No 53/2010 as regards the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and following the conclusion of the bilateral fisheries arrangements for 2010 with Norway and the Faroe Islands 6095/1/10 REV 1 Joint Statement by Denmark and Sweden Denmark and Sweden find that the TAC for plaice in the Kattegat does not reflect relative stability and therefore is an ad-hoc solution for 2010. Plaice in Skagerrak and Kattegat constitutes one stock, and the allocation of the overall TAC for plaice between the areas is 80/20. Statement by the Netherlands The Netherlands understands the importance of the annual agreement between Norway and the European Union and, in general, appreciates its contribution to reaching sustainable management of joint stocks in the North Sea. The Netherlands supports the outcome with regard to the joint management of the North Sea stocks. The Netherlands also accepts the multi annual agreement on the management of mackerel. The Netherlands notes that there is a significant and structural imbalance between Member States which benefit from the exchange of quota and Member States which contribute to the balance in this agreement. The contribution of the Netherlands to the balance for 2010 is considerable and disproportionate. The Netherlands is of the opinion that Member States which benefit from the fishing opportunities Norway offers, such as the Arctic cod, should contribute to the balance accordingly. Taking into account all elements, the Netherlands cannot support the outcome of the bilateral consultations with Norway to the European Union. The Netherlands urges the European Commission to review the way in which the exchange of quota is established between the EU and Norway and to achieve a fair balance between the contribution of the Member States to the balance in the exchange of fishing possibilities.	Qualified Majority; All Member States in favour except: against: NL

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
Council Conclusions on Climate change: Follow-up to the Copenhagen Conference (7-19 December 2009) 7562/10 Council Conclusions on Biodiversity: Post-2010 EU and global vision and targets and international ABS regime 7536/10 3003rd meeting of the Council of the European Union (ECONOMIC and FINANCIAL AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 15 March 2010 Council Decision on the allocation of financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) for the establishment of the gross national income (GNI) used for the purposes of the European Union's budget and its own resources 5946/10 + COR 1 (et) + REV 1 (ro) Statement by Belgium Belgium attaches considerable significance to the Commission proposals for allocation of financial intermediation services indirectly measured for the establishment of the gross national income (GNI) used for the purposes of the European Communities' budget and its own resources. Those proposals were submitted as agreed in Council Regulation (EC) No 448/98 of 16 February 1998 completing and amending Regulation (EC) No 2223/96 of 25 June 1996, implemented as from 1 January 2005 by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1889/2002 of 23 October 2002. Belgium agrees with the proposals and welcomes this more precise, distributively fairer way of estimating Member States' respective shares of Community GNI. Belgium nevertheless deeply regrets the impossibility, on this occasion, of reaching agreement on the retroactive effect of the new provisions, which should have applied with effect from 1 January 2005. There can be seen to be a fairly consistent practice, for revenue, of backdating the effect of new provisions to the time when they were formally decided on. This was in particular recently the case upon entry into force, on 1 March 2009, of Council Decision 2007/436/EC, Euratom of 7 June 2007 on own resources. That practice has not been followed here, a fact which Belgium regrets.	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
Council Conclusions on Europe 2020 7586/10 Council Conclusions on financial exit 7587/10 Council Conclusions on exit strategies for crisis-related measures in labour and product markets 7588/10 Council Conclusions on the financing of climate change 7591/10 Council Conclusions on the budget guidelines for 2011 6794/10 3004th meeting of the Council of the European Union (GENERAL AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 22 March 2010 Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Montenegro on the participation of Montenegro in the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Operation Atalanta) 6976/10	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
3005th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN AFFAIRS), held in Brussels on 22 March 2010 2010/168/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/168/CFSP of 22 March 2010 appointing the European Union Special Representative in Afghanistan 7017/10 Council Declaration on Free access to information in Iran 7644/10 Council Conclusions - EU position for the New York International Conference on Haiti 7603/10 Council Conclusions on Afghanistan 7585/10 3006th meeting of the Council of the European Union (AGRICULTURE and FISHERIES), held in Brussels on 29 March 2010 Regulation of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 452/2007 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of ironing boards originating, <i>inter alia</i>, in the People's Republic of China 7330/10	

INFORMATION ON THE ADOPTION OF OTHER ACTS MARCH 2010	
OTHER ACTS	Votes/Statements made public
Council Decision amending and extending Decision 2007/641/EC on the conclusion of consultations with the Republic of Fiji Islands under Article 96 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement and Article 37 of the Development Cooperation Instrument 6984/10 2010/186/CFSP: Council Decision 2010/186/CFSP of 29 March 2010 amending Common Position 2009/788/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Republic of Guinea 7447/10 + ADD 1 REV 1 Council and Commission Decision on the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Montenegro, of the other part 11568/1/07 REV 1 Written procedure completed on 31 March 2010 Council Decision on the launch of a European Union military mission to contribute to the training of Somali security forces (EUTM Somalia) 7574/10	