

Brussels, 1 June 2018
(OR. en)

9621/18
CRS CRP 17

SUMMARY RECORD
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
8 May 2018

I. Adoption of the agenda

8543/18 OJ CRP1 17
8631/1/18 REV 1 OJ CRP2 17

The Committee adopted the agenda.

II. Approval of the "I" items

The Committee approved the "I" items as set out in the Annex.

III. Discussion items

COREPER (PART 1)

Education, Youth, Culture and Sport

**2. Meeting of the Council (Education, Youth, Culture and Sport)
on 22-23 May 2018: Preparation**

Conclusions on moving towards a vision of a European
Education Area
Adoption

8504/18

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

Competitiveness

3. Meeting of the Council (Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space) on 28-29 May 2018: Preparation

Future of the European Space policy 8490/18
Policy debate

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

Energy

4. Directive on energy efficiency 8329/18
Preparation for the trilogue

The Committee agreed on a revised mandate for the forthcoming trilogue.

5. Directive on renewable energy (recast) 8392/18
Preparation for the trilogue

The Committee agreed on a revised mandate for the forthcoming trilogue.

COREPER (PART 2)

General Affairs

12. Meeting of the Council (General Affairs) on 14 May 2018:
Preparation

- a) Annotated draft agenda for the European Council on 28-29 June 2018 8104/18
Exchange of views

The Committee took note of the annotated draft agenda of the European Council on 28-29 June 2018.

- b) Rule of Law in Poland / Article 7(1) TEU Reasoned Proposal
State of play

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

- c) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Presidency provided further information regarding the Council meeting.

13. EMA relocation 7098/18
Preparation for the trilogue 8697/18
Approval of a letter 8649/18

The Committee agreed on a mandate for the forthcoming trilogue. Furthermore, the Committee approved a letter to be sent to the President of the European Parliament.

Economic and Financial Affairs

14. Facility for Refugees in Turkey - Financing of the second tranche
Political Endorsement

The Committee continued its exchange of views on the financing of the second tranche of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey and agreed to return to this issue one of its forthcoming sessions.

15. Council Implementing Decision imposing a fine on Austria 8538/18
Approval 9140/1/17 REV 1

The Committee approved the text of the Council Implementing Decision and agreed to submit it to the Council for adoption.

Statement by the Commission

"The reliability of Member States' deficit and debt data is of utmost importance, for the sound economic governance of the Union, as recognised by the adoption of Regulation (EU) No 1173/2011. When imposing a fine the principle of equal treatment must be respected with reference to previous cases.

Although the Commission appreciates that the Council contests neither the sole authority of the Commission to conduct the investigations nor the facts as established by the Commission, it regrets the circumstances under which the Council has reduced the fine. The Commission does not consider that the "difficulties ensuing from the high complexity of the facts" is a relevant justification for reducing the amount of the fine, in this case or possible future ones."

16. Meeting of the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 25
May 2018: Preparation

a) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Presidency provided further information regarding the Council meeting.

17. Appointment of the Director-General of OLAF 8377/18 + COR 1
Letter to be sent to the Commission
Approval

The Committee endorsed the recommendation regarding the Council's view on the candidates for Director-General of OLAF and agreed to submit the letter containing the recommendation to the Council for approval.

Justice and Home Affairs

19. Meeting of the Council (Justice and Home Affairs) on 4-5 June
2018: Agenda

The Committee took note of the main items on the agenda.

Foreign Affairs

18. Meeting of the Council (Foreign Affairs/Trade and Development) on 22 May 2018: Preparation

Development

- e) Current Affairs

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

- f) External Financing in the post 2020 MFF

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

- g) Post Cotonou process

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

- h) EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

Trade

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| a) | Negotiations on Free Trade Agreements with Australia and New Zealand | 8559/18 |
| | Council Decisions | 7660/18 R-UE |
| | Negotiating Directives | 7662/18 R-UE |
| | <i>Adoption</i> | |

The Committee agreed on the draft Council decisions and the related negotiating directives and agreed to submit them to the Council for adoption.

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| b) | Council conclusions on the negotiation and conclusion of EU trade agreements | 8549/18 |
| | <i>Adoption</i> | |

The Committee agreed on a revised version of the Council conclusions, as set out in 8622/18, and agreed to submit them to the Council for adoption.

- c) 11th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (MC11) - follow-up
Exchange of views

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

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| d) | EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement, EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement and EU-Singapore Investment Protection Agreement | 7959/18 + ADD 1 -11
7960/18 + ADD 1- 11
7966/18 + ADD 1 -13
7967/18 + ADD 1 -13
7973/18 + ADD 1 - 2
7974/18 + ADD 1 - 2 |
| | <i>Exchange of views</i> | |

The Committee prepared this item for the Council.

- i) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Presidency provided further information regarding the Council meeting.

IV. Any other business

COREPER (PART 1)

None.

COREPER (PART 2)

Informal Leaders' dinner in Sofia on 16 May 2018

The Committee took note of the information provided.

US trade measures

The Committee took note of the information provided. This item was discussed in a restricted session.

"I" items approved**COREPER (PART 1)****Institutional Affairs****Written questions**

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| 6. | Replies to questions for written answer submitted to the Council by Members of the European Parliament
<i>Adoption by silence procedure</i> | 8541/18
PE-QE |
| a) | Răzvan Popa (S&D)
'Romania's accession to the Schengen area' | 8540/18 |
| b) | João Pimenta Lopes (GUE/NGL)
'Detentions in Sudan following peaceful protests' | 7721/18 |

EU positions for international negotiations

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| 7. | Council Decision on a EU position for the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (99th session) concerning passenger ship safety
<i>Adoption</i> | 8206/18
7361/18
MAR |
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Research

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| 8. | Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation with the Republic of Lebanon on the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)
<i>Adoption</i> | 8042/1/18 REV 1
11967/17
RECH |
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Fisheries

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| 9. | Regulation amending the Baltic Sea multi-annual plan
<i>Confirmation of the final compromise text with a view to agreement</i> | 8400/18
PECHE |
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Delegated or Implementing Acts

Internal Market and Industry

10. Corrigendum of 21.3.2018 to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) .../... of 15.2.2018 amending and correcting Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/208 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 167/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to vehicle functional safety requirements for the approval of agricultural and forestry vehicles
8350/1/18 REV 1
7145/18
6254/18 + ADD 1
AGRI
Delegated act - Intention not to raise objections

Statement by Germany

"Two-thirds of fatal accidents take place on country roads. The minor road network and infrastructure are designed in each Member State individually (in Germany maximum 6.0 m). Therefore the body of rules on the placing on the market and the entry into service of extra-wide vehicles should not be harmonised.

In Germany excess width is only permitted for vehicles used for agricultural or forestry purposes.

If a vehicle is more than 2.75 m wide additional markings must be displayed. This is necessary to ensure visibility.

Granting all vehicles in categories T, C and R access to the roads without exception contravenes the subsidiarity principle laid down in Article 5(3) of the Treaty on European Union, because harmonisation has no added value due to the different topographies in the European Union."

Transport

11. Commission Directive (EU) .../... of XXX correcting the German language version of Directive 2006/126/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on driving licences
8533/18
7375/18
TRANS
Decision not to oppose adoption

COREPER (PART 2)

Institutional Affairs

20. Minutes of Council meetings

Approval

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| a) | ECOFIN 20.02.2018 | 6382/18
+ ADD 1 |
| b) | FAC 26.02.2018 | 6583/18
+ ADD 1
+ ADD 1 COR 1 |
| c) | GAC 27.02.2018 | 6606/18
+ COR 1
+ ADD 1 |
| d) | FAC/Defence 06.03.2018 | 6865/18
+ ADD 1 |
| e) | ECOFIN 13.03.2018 | 7213/18
+ ADD 1 |
| f) | FAC 19.03.2018 | 7323/18
+ ADD 1 |
| g) | GAC 20.03.2018 | 7351/18
+ ADD 1 |

Appointments

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| 21. | An alternate member (RO) of the Committee of the Regions | 8182/18 |
| | <i>Adoption</i> | 8181/18
CDR |

Economic and Financial Affairs

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| 22. | European Semester 2018 - Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area | 7552/18 |
| | <i>Adoption</i> | |
| 23. | New Belgian Commemorative coin | 8105/18
UEM |
| 24. | New French Commemorative coin | 8119/18
UEM |

25.	New Estonian Commemorative coin	8421/18 UEM
26.	Conclusions on "Rural Development Programming: less complexity and more focus on results needed" (CoA SR No 16/2017) <i>Adoption</i>	8235/18 AGRI
27.	Conclusions on "Greening: a more complex income support scheme, not yet environmentally effective" (CoA SR No 21/2017) <i>Adoption</i>	8236/18 AGRI
28.	Hungary VAT derogation for supplies of goods and services <i>Adoption</i>	8345/18 8045/18 FISC
29.	Amendment to Directive 2006/112/EC as regards minimum standard VAT rate <i>Adoption</i>	7635/18 7166/18 FISC
30.	Amendment to Directive 2011/16/EU as regards exchange of information on reportable cross-border tax arrangements <i>Adoption</i>	8346/18 7160/18 FISC

General Affairs

31.	Regulation on the harmonisation of gross national income at market prices (GNI Regulation) <i>Confirmation of the final compromise text with a view to agreement</i>	8464/18 STATIS
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The above-mentioned item was withdrawn.

32.	Integrated farm statistics (IFS) regulation <i>Confirmation of the final compromise text with a view to agreement</i>	8178/1/18 REV 1 STATIS
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Statement by Portugal

"Portugal abstains as regards the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on integrated farm statistics and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1166/2008 and (EU) No 1337/2011.

The replacement in Article 17b (derogations) of the reference to the year 2019 by reference to the year 2021 for Portugal is an essential condition for the Portuguese support to the final text of this proposal for a regulation."

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| 33. EP Resolutions and decisions (May I 2018) | 8545/18
PE-RE |
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Justice and Home Affairs

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| 34. Council Implementing Decision on subjecting CUMYL-4CN-BINACA to control measures
<i>Adoption</i> | 8303/18
5392/18
CORDROGUE |
| 35. Council Implementing Decision on subjecting ADB-CHMINACA to control measures
<i>Adoption</i> | 8302/18
5387/18
CORDROGUE |
| 36. Council Decisions on the conclusion of Council Europe Terrorism Convention and Additional Protocol
<i>Adoption</i> | 8495/18
14494/1/17 REV 1
14498/1/17 REV 1
CT |
| 37. Council of Europe - administrative detention of migrants
<i>Endorsement</i> | 8619/18
JAI |
| 38. EU-Gambia good practices for the efficient operation of the return procedure
<i>Endorsement</i> | 8570/18
MIGR |

Foreign Affairs

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| 39. Council decision on the conclusion of the agreement between the EU and Norway on additional trade preferences in agricultural products
<i>Adoption</i> | 8311/18
13357/17
13471/17
AELE |
| 40. Conclusions of the 49th European Economic Area (EEA) Council, 23 May 2018
<i>Adoption</i> | 8337/1/18 REV 1
EEE |

41.	Sanctions Guidelines - update <i>Adoption</i>	5664/18 CORLX
42.	EUTM Mali - Decision <i>Adoption</i>	8328/18 7500/18 CORLX
43.	EUNAVFOR MED operation SOPHIA - Decision <i>Adoption</i>	8388/18 7708/18 CORLX
44.	PSC Decision EUCAP SAHEL Niger/1/2018 - appointment of the Head of Mission <i>Decision to publish in the Official Journal</i>	8243/18 8130/18 PSC DEC
45.	EU position for the 14th EU-Tunisia Association Council, Brussels, 15 May 2018 <i>Adoption</i>	8574/18 TU

Statement by Greece

"Greece takes into due consideration the necessity for a common EU position in view of the EU-Tunisia Association Council.

Regarding the discussions with Tunisia on temporary and reciprocal agricultural trade concessions, Greece expresses its serious concerns about the appropriateness of such a standalone package, as well as about the lack of the necessary consultations that ought to have taken place before the EU engaged into preliminary discussions with the Republic of Tunisia.

Greece notes that no reference to specific agricultural products is included in the Declaration by the EU for the 14th Session of the EU-Tunisia Association Council. The specifics of any proposal should be decided after adequate consultations in particular with affected Member-States and should take into consideration the European agricultural sensitivities.

Any concessions should be granted to Tunisia conditionally to the progress of the DCFTA talks. This is particularly relevant for the protection of geographical indications (GIs) where we believe that a political agreement should be reached before the reciprocal trade concessions enter into force. Greece declares that any temporary and reciprocal agricultural trade concessions agreed with Tunisia should not prejudice the outcome of the DCFTA negotiations and also, do not constitute a precedent for other trade partners. Greece also notes that the asymmetrical approach in favour of Tunisia, as proposed in the context of the DCFTA, should not work to the detriment of EU vulnerable sectors.

As to the olive oil sector, Greece recalls the Statement by Greece and Italy submitted to the COREPER minutes on the 6th of April 2016 (ST 7155/16 ADD1 REV1) with regard to the introduction of emergency autonomous trade measures for the Republic of Tunisia, where inter alia it was stressed that the agricultural sector is a cornerstone of the economy of Greece and Italy, and therefore, the concessions by the EU to its trade partners should be governed by the principle of a balanced and proportional approach among the various sectors of the EU economy. An ex-ante impact assessment is needed before granting further concessions to Tunisia on duty-free olive oil quotas.

In presenting this statement, Greece has taken into full consideration the wider political and socio-economic aspects of the EU support to Tunisia."

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| 46. | Restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine - new listings - Decision and Implementing Regulation
<i>Adoption</i> | 8476/18
7646/18
7648/18
CORLX |
| 47. | Restrictive measures (Sanctions)
Update of the EU Best Practices for the effective implementation of restrictive measures
<i>Approval</i> | 8519/18
CORLX |
| 48. | Libya restrictive measures UN transposition May 2018 - Implementing Decision
<i>Adoption</i> | 8643/18
8635/18
CORLX |
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