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THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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CRS/CRP 19

SUMMARY RECORD

Subject: 2453rd meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 23, 24 and 27 May 2013

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

doc. 9642/13 OJ/CRP1 19 + COR 1

9690/2/13 REV 2 OJ/CRP2 19 COMIX 293 + CM 3024/13

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

The following items are **added**:

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

62. Review of restrictive measures against Syria

- **Letters of reply to persons and an entity subject to the restrictive measures provided for in Council Decision 2011/782/CFSP and in Council Regulation (EU) No 36/2012**

9765/13 PESC 557 RELEX 424 COMEM 124 COARM 88 FIN 283

63. Council Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 204/2011 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya

9639/13 PESC 543 RELEX 415 COARM 85 COMEM 121 FIN 271

9561/13 PESC 528 RELEX 406 COARM 84 COMEM 119 FIN 265 OC 293

64. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down the weightings applicable from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 and the weightings applicable from 1 July 2012 to the remuneration of officials, temporary staff and contract staff of the European Union serving in third countries

- **Decision to use the written procedure for its adoption**

9773/13 STAT 19 FIN 284 OC 304

(Coreper Part 2, under II)

65. Draft European Council Decision establishing the composition of the European Parliament

- **Political agreement**
- **Consent of the European Parliament**

The following items are **withdrawn**:

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

38. Relations with Algeria

- **Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of a Strategic Partnership between Algeria and the European Union in the field of energy**
9521/13 AL 2 COMAG 40 ENER 181 MED 18 RELEX 398

39. Relations with Russia

- **Key Outstanding Issues for the EU in its relations with Russia**
9619/13 COEST 110 PESC 537

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

DE made a statement on the following item :

40. Draft Council Decision authorising the Member States to sign, in the interests of the European Union, the Arms Trade Treaty

9550/13 COARM 81 CODUN 27 PESC 524 COMER 120

9554/13 COARM 82 CODUN 28 PESC 525 COMER 121 OC 292

"Today's Council Decision states that: "With respect to those matters falling under the exclusive competence of the Union, Member States are hereby authorised to sign the Arms Trade Treaty in the interests of the Union." The Federal Republic of Germany endorses the signing of the Treaty by the Member States, also in the interests of the Union, and with regard to the political significance of the Treaty, supports the appeal to the Member States to sign it on 3 June 2013.

However, the Federal Republic of Germany continues to have considerable doubts as to the necessity of this Decision authorising the Member States to sign the Treaty, as well as to whether the Decision can be taken on the legal bases given. Germany's cooperation in adopting this Decision is thus without prejudice to its position on the legal issues arising in the context of the signing of "mixed agreements" by the Member States, in particular regarding the necessity of a Council Decision as a prerequisite for signature by Member States or regarding a specific sequence for signature."

Coreper Part 1

II

8. Preparation for the Council meeting (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 6, 7 and 10 June 2013

1. **Communication from the Commission on "Making the internal energy market work" (*Non legislative activity*)**
 - **Adoption of Council conclusions in the light of the European Council of 22nd May 2013**
16202/12 ENER 467
9255/13 ENER 164

The Committee expressed its agreement on the text of the draft Council conclusions, as set out in the Annex to document 9809/13, and agreed to invite the Council to adopt them.

2. **Communication from the Commission on "Energy Technologies and Innovation" (*Non legislative activity*)**
 - **Policy debate**
9187/13 ENER 157 RECH 137 ENV 358
9479/13 ENER 178 RECH 153 ENV 394

The Committee agreed that a policy debate could take place on the basis of the questions set out in document 9479/13.

3. **International relations in the field of energy (*Non legislative activity*)**
 - (a) **EU-Russia**
 - (b) **International Energy Agency**
 - (c) **Clean Energy Ministerial**
 - (d) **Southern Corridor**
 - (e) **EU-Algeria Memorandum of Understanding on Energy**
 - (f) **Strategic Group for International Energy Cooperation**
 - **Information from the Commission and the Presidency**
9098/13 ENER 152 COEST 95 RELEX 355

The Committee agreed that the Council will be informed by the Presidency and the Commission on the above items.

9. (a) **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and deleting the provisions on voluntary beef labelling (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
(b) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 64/432/EEC as regards computer databases which are part of the surveillance networks in the Member States (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee took note of the Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the third informal trilogue.

10. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down Union Customs Code (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Analysis of the final compromise text with a view to agreement**
9578/13 UD 104 ENFOCUSTOM 85 MI 402 COMER 122 TRANS 237 CODEC 1088

The Committee endorsed the final compromise set out in document 9578/13 and mandated the Presidency to inform the European Parliament that, should Parliament adopt the text of the Proposal in the exact form as set out in Annex I at a forthcoming plenary meeting, the Council would adopt the proposed Regulation thus amended.

The Commission made the following statement :

"The Commission confirms that Article 7(c) does not apply to the way operators keep their records, to the way customs authorities perform their checks of these records or to the way access to the data is made possible."

DE made a statement related to Article 7 (c) of the Union Customs Code:

"The Federal Republic of Germany takes note of the wording of Article 7(c) of the Union Customs Code and the statement made by the Commission on the proposed provision. It emphasises that the information and particulars to be transmitted on the basis of EU law according to the above should not be conclusively settled in such a way that Member States would be prohibited from demanding additional information to thereby preserve the long-standing national system architecture which serves to the benefit of trade and the administration."

AT and DE made a statement related to Article 125g(5) of the Union Customs Code:

"Article 125g(5) in conjunction with Article 129 of the UCC will allow non-Union goods in temporary storage within the Union to be moved across Member States outside of the transit procedure provided for this purpose without any customs duty or input turnover tax being collected. To ensure that the large number of expected movements of goods can be supervised effectively with a view to protecting the financial interests of the EU and the Member States, it would be necessary to establish a redundant (IT) procedure in addition to NCTS, the electronic system specifically developed for the transit procedure, which is not acceptable given the significant human and financial resources already invested in NCTS by the EU and the Member States. Furthermore, the arrangement will hinder the supervision of commercial measures as well as prohibitions and restrictions, for example embargoes.

Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany will therefore, pending further notice, not make use of the discretionary provision under Article 125g(5) UCC by neither granting such authorisations nor joining authorisations granted by other Member States that relate to its territory."

**11. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014-2020) (First reading)
(Legislative deliberation)**

- **Preparation for the informal trilogue / Guidance for future work**
8586/13 SOC 257 ECOFIN 275 FSTR 32 COMPET 216 AGRI 246 CODEC 849

The Committee discussed the file on the basis of a further Presidency compromise proposal in order to agree on the last outstanding core issues (scope, co-financing and beneficiaries). The main features of this compromise are the extension of the scope to a crisis element, the use of the term "beneficiaries" instead of definitions for "workers", the inclusion of the possibility to assist young workers under 25 years and a single co-financing rate of 55 %.

Due to continuing diverging views on certain topics, there was no sufficient support by the Committee on the Presidency compromise. In the absence of a Council mandate, the Presidency can not start trilogue negotiations. The Presidency decided to submit the file to the June EPSCO Council.

12. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing "Erasmus for all": the Union Programme for Education, Training, Youth and Sport (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Preparation for the informal trilogue

9528/13 EDUC 142 JEUN 52 SPORT 50 SOC 323 RELEX 399 RECH 159

CADREFIN 110 CODEC 1067

+ ADD 1

The Committee approved the text as contained in the ADD 1 REV 1 to document 9528/1/13 REV 1, as a basis for the forthcoming informal trilogue.

13. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME) (2014-2020) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue

The Presidency informed the Committee on the outcome of the second informal trilogue with the European Parliament on the COSME proposal.

14. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on ship recycling (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Preparation for the informal trilogue

9553/13 ENV 402 MAR 56 TRANS 235 COMAR 21 CODEC 1080

The Committee considered the Presidency compromise suggestions set out in 9553/13, but could not agree to the proposed modifications to the mandate for the negotiations with the European Parliament in first reading. The mandate for the informal trilogue foreseen on 27 May 2013 in Brussels therefore remains, for the time being, as set out in 9220/13.

15. Preparation for the Council meeting "Competitiveness" (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space) on 29 and 30 May 2013

1. Auditing

(a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)

(b) Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2006/43/EC on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)

- **Progress report**

- **Orientation debate**

9518/13 DRS 97 CODEC 1061

The Committee endorsed the Presidency's approach for conducting the orientation debate on the basis of a progress report and the three questions set out in document 9518/13.

2. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and the Council, establishing a Space Surveillance and Tracking Support Programme (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)

- **Progress report**

6952/13 ESPACE 18 COMPET 120 IND 54 RECH 52 TRANS 83 COSDP 187
CSC 19 CIVCOM 88 CODEC 547

+ COR 1

9026/13 ESPACE 30 COMPET 251 IND 125 RECH 129 TRANS 196
COSDP 382 CSC 42 CIVCOM 180 CODEC 951

The Committee examined and noted the Presidency Progress report, set in document 9026/13, and agreed to forward it to the Council, which is invited to take note of it at its meeting on 30 May 2013.

3. Communication from the Commission on "EU Space Industrial Policy - Releasing the Potential for Economic Growth in the Space Sector " (*Non legislative activity*)

- **Adoption of Council conclusions**

6950/13 ESPACE 16 IND 52 COMPET 118 RECH 50 TELECOM 34 MI 162
TRANS 85 COSDP 196

8998/13 ESPACE 29 IND 124 COMPET 249 RECH 128 TELECOM 92 MI 340
TRANS 195 COSDP 379

The outcome of the proceedings of the Committee is set out in document 9599/13.

4. 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*)**
- **State of play**
 - 17933/11 RECH 410 COMPET 578 IND 162 MI 631 EDUC 283
TELECOM 197 ENER 389 ENV 919 REGIO 143 AGRI 826
TRANS 342 SAN 260 CODEC 2273
+ REV 2 (it,nl,da,es,pt,el,lv,lt,hu,mt,pl,sk,ro)
+ REV 3 (fi,sv)
+ REV 4 (nl)
 - 17934/11 RECH 411 COMPET 579 ATO 151 CODEC 2274
 - 9534/13 RECH 160 COMPET 291 ATO 49 IND 146 MI 394 EDUC 143
TELECOM 114 ENER 182 ENV 399 REGIO 98 AGRI 305
TRANS 233 SAN 163 CODEC 1071

The Committee took note of the Presidency note on the state of play (doc. 9534/13) and decided to put it forward to the Competitiveness Council.

5. Communication from the Commission on "High Performance Computing: Europe's place in a Global Race" (*Non legislative activity*)

- **Adoption of Council conclusions**
 - 6596/12 RECH 56 COMPET 96 IND 31 TELECOM 32
 - 9538/13 RECH 161COMPET 292 IND 147 TELECOM 115

The outcome of the proceedings of the Committee is set out in document 9808/13.

6. Communication from the Commission on "Enhancing and focusing EU international cooperation in research and innovation: A strategic approach"(*Non legislative activity*)

- **Adoption of Council conclusions**
 - 14000/12 RECH 344 COMPET 563 RELEX 838 DEVGEN 245
 - 9542/13 RECH 162 COMPET 294 RELEX 401 DEVGEN 120

The outcome of the proceedings of the Committee is set out in document 9701/13.

7. Advisory work for the European Research Area (ERA) (*Non legislative activity*)

- **Adoption of Council Resolution**
 - 9370/13 RECH 147 COMPET 277

The outcome of the proceedings of the Committee is set out in document 9763/13.

16. **Public procurement package (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- (a) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on public procurement**
 - (b) **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**
 - (c) **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the award of concession contracts**
 - **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee took note of a short oral debriefing by the Presidency on the outcome of the latest informal trilogue taking place on 23 May 2013.

17. **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
18899/11 ETS 22 MI 679 COMPET 629 EDUC 297 CODEC 2507
9564/13 ETS 17 MI 400 COMPET 295 EDUC 144 CODEC 1083

The Committee:

- noted the current position in the negotiations with the European Parliament and the Commission and approved the new text arising from these negotiations, as indicated in bold/italics in document 9680/13, and
- gave mandate to the Presidency to finalise negotiations with the European Parliament with a view to a first reading agreement.

18. **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on recreational craft and personal watercraft (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Analysis of the final compromise text with a view to agreement**
9501/13 ENT 124 ENV 396 CODEC 1055

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

19. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning flag State responsibilities for the enforcement of Council Directive 2009/13/EC implementing the Agreement concluded by the European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) on the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, and amending Directive 1999/63/EC (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
9526/13 TRANS 232 MAR 55 SOC 322 CODEC 1056

The Committee examined the outstanding issues and gave the Presidency a broad mandate to negotiate with the European Parliament at the informal trilogue on 28 May 2013.

20. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 3821/85 on recording equipment in road transport and amending Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council ("Tachograph") (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- **Analysis of the final compromise text with a view to agreement**
13195/11 TRANS 222 CODEC 1274
9275/13 TRANS 211 CODEC 1000

The Committee approved the final compromise text, which is contained in document 9275/1/13 REV 1, and authorised the Presidency to inform the European Parliament accordingly.

DE made the following statement :

"The purpose of the present proposal by the European Commission on digital tachographs is to establish the efficiency and effectiveness of tachographs and ensure that professional drivers comply even more with the legislation governing driving times and rest periods.

However, the German Federal Government believes that this proposal must not result in further administrative burdens being imposed on small and medium-sized enterprises – especially trade and repair businesses – for reasons they cannot understand.

The version of the proposed regulation negotiated between the Parliament and the Council provides for an exemption for these companies if they operate a vehicle within a radius of 100 km from their premises. It is true that this is an advance on the rule that has applied so far, which only provides for a radius of 50 km. However, for countries with a large area, such as Germany, this rule is insufficient and thus unacceptable. Moreover, small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular, are today dependent on being able to reach customers located within a larger radius.

Since the start of the negotiations, the Federal Government has been advocating an extension of the exemption to a 150 km radius. Germany would be willing to accept the following, ultimate fall-back position: those Member States that deem it necessary should be given the option of extending this exemption to a 150 km radius.

Given the arguments set forth in this statement, the German Federal Government cannot give its consent to the European Commission's proposal on digital tachographs in the form of the outcome of the informal trilogue."

21. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Connecting Europe Facilities (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)
- Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the results of the fourth informal trilogue on the CEF, which took place on 22 May 2013.

22. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union guidelines for the development of the Trans-European Transport Network (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Preparation for the informal trilogue

15629/3/11 TRANS 276 ECOFIN 688 ENV 778 RECH 336 CODEC 1699 REV 3
9508/13 TRANS 230 ECOFIN 351 ENV 397 RECH 155 CODEC 1058

The Committee examined the EP amendments and the related Presidency compromise proposals as set out in document 9508/13 and gave the Presidency a mandate for the informal trilogue on the above proposal with a view to a first reading agreement with the European Parliament.

23. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 443/2009 to define the modalities for reaching the 2020 target to reduce CO₂ emissions from new passenger cars (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue

The Presidency gave a brief report on the main political issues that emerged as central for the European Parliament during the first informal trilogue on the file, which was held in Strasbourg on 22 May 2013. The Presidency will revert to the Committee with a revised mandate in view of the second informal trilogue, scheduled on 3 June 2013.

24. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 "Living well, within the limits of our planet" (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue

The Presidency debriefed the Committee on the positive outcome of the first trilogue, held in Strasbourg on 22 May 2013, and indicated that the Committee would revert on this issue on 31 May 2013 in order to prepare the next trilogue to be held on 6 June 2013.

25. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- Guidance for future work

9597/13 SOC 327 FSTR 46 CADREFIN 114 REGIO 100 CODEC 1091

Many delegations stressed the importance of reaching an agreement so that the Fund could be operational in January 2014. Some indicated that they would prefer the Fund to cover all Member States but could accept a voluntary Fund as a compromise, while four delegations rejected a voluntary approach. Commission maintained its proposal on a Fund for all Member States, indicating that it would be more appropriate to increase flexibility in the use of the Fund. The majority of delegations supported advancing the work on the basis of a voluntary approach.

The Working Party will continue the work on this basis, taking into account different concerns of delegations (on the level of allocations, flexibility in using the money, making joining or leaving the Fund possible during its seven-year period).

Coreper Part 2

II

47. Preparation of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 27/28 May 2013

a) Southern Neighbourhood

- Syria

= **Draft Council conclusions**

9579/13 COMAG 41 PESC 529 COHAFA 55 SY 6

On the basis of an EEAS non-paper, the Committee had an exchange of views on the renewal of the EU restrictive measures against the Syrian regime with a view to preparing the Foreign Affairs Council of 27 May 2013.

The Committee confirmed and approved the draft Council conclusions on Syria and transmitted them to the Foreign Affairs Council for adoption.

b) CSDP

The Committee was informed by EEAS that HR Ashton would facilitate a lunch discussion during the Foreign Affairs Council on 27 May 2013, focusing on civilian crisis management, with regard to preparations for the December 2013 European Council meeting on Defence.

c) MEPP

The Committee was informed by EEAS that Foreign Ministers would briefly discuss the Middle-East Peace Process during the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) on 27 May 2013, with a focus on recent US diplomatic initiatives. The Committee was also informed that the Council would possibly adopt MEPP conclusions at the June FAC.

d) Mali/Sahel

- **Draft Council conclusions**

9774/13 COAFR 115 ACP 75 PESC 558 DEVGEN 125 COTER 46 COMAG 43
COHAFA 56 RELEX 425

The Committee was informed that Mali/Sahel was confirmed as an agenda item and that conclusions would be prepared for adoption by Council.

- e) **11th European Development Fund (EDF)**
- f) **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**
- g) **Food and Nutrition Security**
- h) **Policy Coherence for Development (PCD)**
- i) **Empowering Local Authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes**
- j) **Agenda for Change**

The Committee took note of the above-mentioned items.

- k) **Post 2015 Framework**
 = **Draft Council conclusions**
 9330/13 DEVGEN 115 ENV 370 ONU 45 RELEX 372 ECOFIN 340

The Committee found agreement on draft Council conclusions on the Post 2015 Overarching Agenda and forwarded them to the Council (Foreign Affairs/Development Ministers) with a view to their endorsement on 28 May 2013 (doc. 9943/13).

The following statement by Malta will be entered in the Council minutes also (see doc. 10137/13 EXT 1) regarding paragraph 16, point e) in the annex to document 9943/13:

"The post 2015 process should indeed be based on a single comprehensive and coherent framework as this is imperative to achieve effective delivery and significant results at all levels.

Malta reiterates its position that any recommendation or commitment made by the European Union related to the Overarching Post 2015 Agenda should not in any way create an obligation on any party to consider abortion as a legitimate form of reproductive health or rights or commodities."

- l) **Afghanistan**
- m) **Myanmar**

The Committee took note of the above-mentioned items.

n) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

No items were raised under this heading.

48. Debriefing by the Commission on the G20 meeting

The Commission debriefed the Committee on the outcome of the G20 Sherpa meeting, which focused on economic issues, youth unemployment, tax and trade.

49. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council providing further macro-financial assistance to Georgia (Second reading)

- Preparation of the Conciliation Committee meeting

9555/13 CODEC 1081 ECOFIN 354 RELEX 403 COEST 107 NIS 19

9673/13 CODEC 1104 ECOFIN 362 RELEX 417 COEST 113 NIS 20

The Committee approved a mandate for the Presidency for the trilogue scheduled for 28 May 2013.

50. Recommendation for a Council Decision Authorising the European Commission to participate, on behalf of the EU, in the negotiations for an international convention of the Council of Europe to combat the manipulation of sports results

- Possible consequences of the Council Legal Service opinion

9223/13 SPORT 43 MI 359 COMPET 265 JUR 232 DROIPEN 49

ENFOPOL 128 COPEN 75

+ ADD 1

+ ADD 2

+ ADD 3

7726/13 JUR 151 INST 136 RELEX 235 JAI 223 CATS 12 MI 226

COMPET 167 TRANS 126 ENV 237 ECOFIN 209 AGRI 199

PECHE 113 UD 63 PI 43 JUSTCIV 67 ASIM 21 JAIEX 21

DROIPEN 31 ENFOPOL 80 COPEN 45 SPORT 21

+ COR 1

The Committee

- agreed that, as indicated in the CLS opinion (doc. 7726/13), the draft Decisions authorising the Commission to open negotiations should include the substantive legal bases, in addition to the procedural legal basis;
- agreed to split the recommendation with a view to the finalisation of the two draft Decisions by the Committee, Part I, after solving the outstanding specific issues;
- noted that the three month period within which the UK and Ireland may opt in to the draft Decision set out in document 9223/13 ADD 3 has begun.

51. Follow-up to the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 21 May 2013

The Committee took note of the main issues discussed on the General Affairs Council, namely the latest developments on the MFF file, the draft conclusions of the May European Council, the draft annotated agenda of the June European Council and the presentation of the Presidency's report on the implementation of the EC conclusions.

52. Follow-up to the European Council on 22 May 2013

The Committee took note of the key outcomes of the discussions at the May EC which focused on energy and taxation issues.

53. Relations with Russia

- **Preparations for the 31st EU-Russia Summit (Yekaterinburg, 3-4 June 2013)**
8650/13 COEST 83 PESC 429 POLGEN 48

The Committee discussed the final preparations for the EU- Russia Summit on the basis of document 8650/13 and took note of the comments of delegations. Several delegations expressed concerns at any linkage made between the issue of Passenger Name Records (PNR) and 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 (also discussed under item 59 on the agenda).

The Committee subsequently reverted to this issue. In the absence of a consensus, the Committee decided not to submit document 8650/13 to the attention of the Council (Foreign Affairs) on 27 May 2013.

- 54. Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and Kosovo**
8741/13 COWEB 57 RESTREINT UE

The Committee agreed that, should the Council decide on the opening of negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Kosovo, in line with the Council conclusions of December 2012, these negotiations would be opened on the understanding that it is an EU-only agreement. On this basis, the Committee tasked COWEB to work on draft negotiating directives.

- 55. Preparation of the 6th EU - South-Africa Summit (Kliptown, Soweto, week of 15 July 2013)**
- **Orientation debate**
9488/13 PESC 519 ACP 72 COAFR 149

The Committee discussed the organisation and content of the sixth EU-South Africa Summit in Kliptown, Soweto planned to take place in the week of 15 July 2013 on the basis of document 9488/13. The discussion provided input to the further preparations of the Summit agenda and deliverables and the negotiations of the Joint Statement.

- 56. Special Advisor Communication**
9678/13 PESC 547 CIVCOM 201 COSDP 454
9748/13 JUR 250 PESC 554 CIVCOM 204 COSDP 459

The Committee agreed on the proposal set out in Annex to document 9678/13.

- 57. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending the staff regulations of officials and the conditions of employment of other servants of the European Union (First reading)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue (*restricted session*)**

The Presidency informed delegations on the outcome of the first trilogue which was held on 13 May 2013 and explained the key principles for action in the coming weeks.

58. Schengen Governance

- a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 in order to provide for common rules on the temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders in exceptional circumstances (First reading)**
- b) Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of an evaluation mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis**
 - **State of play**
 - 9604/13 SCHENGEN 13 FRONT 47 SCH-EVAL 52 COMIX 290 CODEC 1092
+ COR 1
 - 9606/13 SCHENGEN 14 SCH-EVAL 53 FRONT 48 COMIX 291
+ COR 1
 - 9607/13 SCHENGEN 15 SCH-EVAL 54 FRONT 49 COMIX 292

The Committee confirmed the outcome of the discussions held during the Mixed Committee (see doc. 10574/13).

59. 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 9515/13 VISA 104 COEST 105 RESTREINT UE

The matter was discussed on the basis of the suggestions made by the services of the Commission with reference to the outstanding issue of service passports as set out in 9515/13 (RESTREINT UE). A broad majority of delegations expressed reservations concerning these suggestions and delegations also referred to need to look at the file in the broader context of the relationship with Russia. It was concluded that the Commission would debrief the Committee on 29 May 2013 following the next meeting between the Commission side and Russian side.

60. Preparation of the Council meeting (Justice and Home Affairs) on 6/7 June 2013

a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation) (First reading)

- Agreement on key issues

9398/13 DATAPROTECT 61 JAI 355 MI 383 DRS 96 DAPIX 80 FREMP 53

COMIX 276 CODEC 1033

+ COR 1

The Committee discussed the conclusions proposed by the Presidency in document 9398/13, as amended in DS 1452/13.

The Committee also engaged in a brief discussion on the possible inclusion of EU institutions and bodies in the scope of the draft Regulation. The Chair indicated the item would be reverted to at the next meeting of the Committee.

b) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council creating a European Account Preservation Order to facilitate cross border debt recovery in civil and commercial matters (First reading)

- Orientation debate on specific principles relating to the balance between the creditor's and the debtor's interests

9397/13 JUSTCIV 118 CODEC 1032

The outcome of the discussions is set out in 10047/13.

c) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1346/2000 on insolvency proceedings (First reading)

- Orientation debate

9520/13 JUSTCIV 120 EJUSTICE 42 CODEC 1062

The outcome of the discussions is set out in 10050/13.

d) Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (First reading)

9547/1/13 REV 1 DROIPEN 54 JAI 376 GAF 20 FIN 263 CADREFIN 111

CODEC 1078

The Committee discussed the proposed compromise as set out in 9547/1/13 REV 1. The Chair noted a large support for the text, including the proposed change of the legal basis.

The Chair concluded that a revised text, including some amendments made during the debate, would be presented to the Council for agreement.

e) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Chair informed the Committee about the handling at the Council of the following issues :

- Drugs :
 - = European Drug report 2013 - Presentation by EMCDDA
 - = EU Action Plan on Drugs (2013-2016)
- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation and Training (Europol) and repealing Decisions 2009/371/JHA and 2005/681/JHA
- Common European Asylum
- Schengen Governance legislative package:
 - a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 in order to provide for common rules on the temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders in exceptional circumstances
 - b) Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of an evaluation mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis
- Greece's National Action Plan on Asylum Reform and Migration Management.

61. New Multiannual Financial Framework

The Committee discussed revised Presidency texts relating to the draft MFF Regulation and draft IIA.

65. Draft European Council Decision establishing the composition of the European Parliament

- **Political agreement**
- **Consent of the European Parliament**

The Committee discussed the EP proposal for a European Council Decision establishing the composition of the EP (doc. 8649/13), focusing on the amendments proposed by the Presidency to Recital 4, Articles 3 and 4 as well as on the new Recital 5.

Following a first exchange of views, the Presidency proposed to make additional changes to Recital 5 and Article 4 in order to address the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the need to respect the institutional system as laid down in the Treaties as well as the criteria laid down in Article 14 TEU.

The Presidency noted that no delegation was opposed to the proposed new changes, and that one delegation had entered a parliamentary scrutiny reservation.

The Presidency concluded by indicating that the European Council will be asked to decide to seek the EP's consent on the draft Decision following a written procedure to be launched as soon as possible.
