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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	List of Council preparatory bodies

1. The list of Council preparatory bodies is attached in Annex I[1].

2. For preparatory bodies marked with a single asterisk, all delegates should have a valid EU personnel security clearance at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET. For preparatory bodies marked with a double asterisk, all delegates should have a valid EU personnel security clearance at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL[2].

3. Annex II sets out certain security requirements governing access to meetings, in particular where classified information is discussed.

[1] This list does not include Joint Committees and other bodies with third countries. Nor does it include certain bodies (e.g. the Schengen Joint Supervisory Authority and the Standing Committee on Employment) which, although they meet in the Council building, are not Council preparatory bodies.

[2] These references in Annex I cancel and replace 8683/05 + COR 1.

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4. Annex III lists all the preparatory bodies with a fixed chair (i.e. committees or Working Parties with an elected/appointed chair, chaired by a representative of the High Representative or chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council).

5. Committees or Working Parties may only be set up by, or with the approval of, the Council or Coreper. Only the committees and Working Parties on this list may meet as Council preparatory bodies (Article 19(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure). Ad hoc Working Parties cease to exist once their terms of reference have been fulfilled. Their terms of reference should expressly state this rule or be time-limited.

6. Substantial and important new technical proposals requiring specific expertise should, as a rule, be included within the remit of the competent existing Working Party. If necessary for practical reasons, a specific sub-area may be listed rather than creating a new permanent or ad hoc Working Party. The listing of sub-areas does not imply that Working Party remits are confined to the sub-areas in question; Working Parties cover any other matters falling within their general scope. The Presidency may request the listing of such sub-areas on the basis of practical need.

7. Meetings should only be convened when a sufficiently substantive agenda exists or objective deadlines require it.

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ANNEX I

LIST OF COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES

A.	**Committees established by the Treaties**	**4**
	Committees established by Intergovernmental Decision	**5**
	Committees and Groups established by Council Act	**5**
	Groups closely associated with Coreper	**6**
	Counsellors/Attachés	**6**
B.	**General Affairs**	**7**
C.	**Foreign Affairs**	**9**
D.	**Economic and Financial Affairs**	**11**
E.	**Justice and Home Affairs**	**12**
F.	**Agriculture/Fisheries**	**13**
G.	**Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)**	**15**
H.	**Transport/Telecommunications/Energy**	**16**
I.	**Employment/Social Policy/Health/Consumer Affairs**	**16**
J.	**Environment**	**16**
K.	**Education/Youth/Culture/Sport**	**16**

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COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED BY THE TREATIES	
A.1	Permanent Representatives Committee (Coreper) * - Part II - Part I - Article 50[3]
A.2	Economic and Financial Committee[4] (°) **
A.3	Employment Committee[5] (°)
A.4	Trade Policy Committee (TPC)[6] ** - Full Members - Deputies - Experts (STIS, Services and Investment)
A.5	Political and Security Committee (PSC)(°°) *
A.6	Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI)[7] *
A.7	Social Protection Committee[8] (°)

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs.

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

3 Following the notification by the United Kingdom under Article 50 TEU, the members of the European Council, the Council and its preparatory bodies representing the United Kingdom do not participate in the discussions or in decisions concerning it. In these instances, Coreper (Article 50) is convened.

4 This advisory body, established under Article 134 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), formulates opinions at the request of either the Council or the Commission and contributes to the preparation of Council proceedings. It has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission (OJ L 158, 27.6.2003, p. 58).

5 This advisory body, established under Article 150 of the TFEU, formulates opinions at the request of either the Council or the Commission or on its own initiative and contributes to the preparation of Council proceedings. It has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission (OJ L 121, 14.5.2015, p. 12).

6 The Trade Policy Committee assists the Commission in the negotiation of trade agreements and advises the Commission on the common commercial policy. Its consultative role is without prejudice to the functions of the relevant geographical Working Parties responsible for bilateral relations with third countries (16864/09 and 5662/10).

7 This Committee, provided for by Article 71 of the TFEU, was set up by Council Decision 2010/131/EU of 25 February 2010 (OJ L 52, 3.3.2010, p. 50).

8 This advisory body, established under Article 160 of the TFEU, prepares reports, formulates opinions or undertakes other work within its fields of competence at the request of either the Council or the Commission or on its own initiative. It has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission (OJ L 121, 14.5.2015, p. 16).

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COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL DECISION	
A.8	Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA)[9]
COMMITTEES AND GROUPS ESTABLISHED BY COUNCIL ACT	
A.9	European Union Military Committee (EUMC)[10] (°) *
A.10	Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CivCom)[11] (°°) *
A.11	Economic Policy Committee[12] (°)
A.12	Financial Services Committee[13] (°)
A.13	Security Committee[14] (°°°) * - Information Assurance (AQUA Reference Group, Implementation Tempest Task Force)[15] - Security Accreditation Board (SAB)
A.19	Ad hoc Working Party on Article 50 TEU[16] (°°°)

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs.

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

(°°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council.

9 The Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) was established by a decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States on 12 May 1960 to prepare decisions of the Agriculture Council.

10 Council Decision 2001/79/CFSP of 22 January 2001, OJ L 27, 30.1.2001, p. 4. This Committee has an elected chair, as is confirmed by note 2 to Annex II to Council Decision 2009/908/EU of 1 December 2009, OJ L 322, 9.12.2009, p. 28.

11 Council Decision 2000/354/CFSP of 22 May 2000, OJ L 127, 27.5.2000, p. 1.

12 Council Decision 2000/604/EC of 29 September 2000, OJ L 257, 11.10.2000, p. 28. This Committee has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission.

13 Council Decision of 18 February 2003, OJ L 67, 12.3.2003, p. 17.

14 Council Decision 2013/488/EU of 23 September 2013, OJ L 274, 15.10.2013, p. 1 (Article 17).

15 Council Decision 2013/488/EU of 23 September 2013, OJ L 274, 15.10.2013, p. 1 (Article 17 (3)).

16 Council Decision 2017/900 of 22 May 2017, OJ L 138, 25.05.2017, p. 138. Following the notification by the United Kingdom under Article 50 TEU, the members of the European Council, the Council and its preparatory bodies representing the United Kingdom do not participate in the discussions or in decisions concerning it.

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GROUPS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH COREPER	
A.14	Antici Group * Antici Group (Article 50)[17] *
A.15	Mertens Group *
A.16	Friends of the Presidency Group - Regulatory procedure with scrutiny (RPS) adaptation[18] - Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements and Solidarity Clause Implementation (IPCR/SCI) - Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) - EU Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) - Macro-Regional Strategies - Valletta Summit on Migration - External Investment Plan/European Fund for Sustainable Development (EIP/EFSD)[19] - Implementation of Action 1 of the Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats[20] - European Defence Fund (EDF)[21] - Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)[22]
COUNSELLORS/ATTACHES	
A.18	Counsellors/Attachés[23]

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

17 Following the notification by the United Kingdom under Article 50 TEU, the members of the European Council, the Council and its preparatory bodies representing the United Kingdom do not participate in the discussions or in decisions concerning it. In these instances, Antici Group (Article 50) is convened.

18 5707/17

19 12293/16

20 9826/18

21 9972/18

22 10067/1/18 REV 1

23 Formal Counsellor or Attaché meetings are convened and organised based on established practices.

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GENERAL AFFAIRS	
B.1	Working Party on General Affairs
B.3	High-Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration[24]
B.4	Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG)[25]
B.5	Working Party on Structural Measures
B.6	Working Party on Outermost Regions
B.7	Working Party on Atomic Questions **
B.8	Working Party on Statistics[26]
B.9	Working Party on Information (°°°)
B.11	Coordination Committee for Communication and Information Systems (CCCIS)[27] (°°°) * - CCCIS (TECH)[28]
B.12	Working Party on Codification of Legislation (°°°)
B.13	Working Party of Legal/Linguistic Experts (°°°)
B.14	Working Party on the Court of Justice

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

(°°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council.

24 Approved by the Council on 25 January 1999 and updated on 3 June 2002.

25 The Horizontal Working Party retains a general overview of all drug-related questions. The Presidency and the General Secretariat will accordingly ensure that it receives information on all drug-related issues being handled in other Working Parties.

26 Deals in particular with Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN), internal market, agricultural and fisheries, social policy and health/consumer protection statistics. This Working Party retains a general overview of all statistical questions. The Presidency and the General Secretariat accordingly ensure that it receives information on all statistics-related issues being dealt with in other Working Parties (cf. 7003/03, p. 2).

27 14195/10

28 5189/11

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B.15	Working Party on the Staff Regulations
B.17	Ad hoc Working Party on the follow-up to the Council conclusions on Cyprus of 26 April 2004[29]
B.18	Ad hoc Working Party on the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism for Bulgaria and Romania[30]
B.19	Working Party on Enlargement and Countries Negotiating Accession to the EU[31]
B.21	Working Party on E-Law[32] (°°°)
B.23	Horizontal Working Party on Cyber Issues (Cyber)[33] [34]
B.24	Working Party on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030)[35]
B.25	Ad Hoc Working Party on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027[36] [37]

(°°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council.

29 11083/1/04 REV 1

30 5144/07

31 10249/06

32 16113/10

33 13114/16 + COR 1

34 The Horizontal Working Party on Cyber Issues retains a general overview of all cyber issues. The Presidency and the General Secretariat of the Council will accordingly ensure that it receives information on all cyber issues being handled in other Working Parties.

35 14809/17

36 7829/18

37 10094/18

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS	
C.1	Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX) * - Sanctions[38]
C.2	Working Party on Public International Law ** - International Criminal Court
C.3	Working Party on the Law of the Sea
C.4	United Nations Working Party (CONUN) (°°) **
C.5	Working Party on Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe(OSCE) and the Council of Europe (COSCE) (°°) **
C.6	Working Party on Human Rights (COHOM) (°°) **
C.7	Working Party on Transatlantic Relations (COTRA) (°°) *
C.9	Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia (COEST) (°°) *
C.10	Working Party on European Free Trade Association (EFTA)[39] **
C.11	Working Party on the Western Balkans Region (COWEB) (°°) *
C.12	Ad hoc Working Party on the Middle East Peace Process (COMEPP) (°°) *
C.13	Middle East/Gulf Working Party (MOG) (°°) *
C.14	Mashreq/Maghreb Working Party (MAMA) (°°) *
C.15	Africa Working Party (COAFR)[40] (°°) *
C.16	African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Working Party[41] **

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

38 5603/04

39 In addition to the EFTA countries and the Faroe Islands, this Working Party covers matters relating to Monaco, Andorra, San Marino and the Holy See.

40 8745/08

41 Includes ACP/FIN.

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C.17	Asia-Oceania Working Party (COASI) (°°) *
C.18	Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean (COLAC) (°°) *
C.19	Working Party on Terrorism (International Aspects) (COTER) *
C.20	Working Party on Non-Proliferation (CONOP) (°°) *
C.21	Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM) (°°) *
C.22	Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Control (CODUN) (°°) ** - Space
C.23	Working Party on Dual-Use Goods **
C.25	Politico-Military Group (PMG) (°°) *
C.26	Military Committee Working Group (EUMCWG)[42] (°) * - Headline Goal Task Force (HTF)
C.27	Working Party on Trade Questions **
C.28	Working Party on the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)
C.30	Working Party on Development Cooperation (CODEV) **
C.31	Working Party on Preparation for International Development Conferences **
C.32	Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)
C.33	Working Party on Commodities (PROBA)
C.34	Working Party on Consular Affairs (COCON) **
C.36	Nicolaidis Group[43] (°°) *
C.38	Working Party on restrictive measures to combat terrorism (COMET)[44] *
C.39	Ad Hoc Working Party on the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (MFF NDICI)[45]

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs.

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

42 This Working Group has an elected chair (see note 2 to Annex II to Council Decision 2009/908/EU of 1 December 2009, OJ L 322, 9.12.2009, p. 28). Experts may be convened to meet concurrently with the Working Group meeting (400/1/00 ADD 1 REV 2, pp. 37-95).

43 8441/03

44 14612/1/16 REV 1

45 9953/18

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ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS	
D.1	Working Party on Own Resources
D.2	Working Party of Financial Counsellors
D.3	Working Party on Financial Services
D.4	Working Party on Tax Questions - Indirect Taxation - Direct Taxation
D.5	Code of Conduct Group (Business Taxation)[46] (°) - Subgroup A[47] - Subgroup B[48] - Subgroup (abuse issues related to inbound and outbound profit transfers and mismatches between tax systems) [49] - Subgroup (third countries)[50] - Subgroup (third and fourth criteria of the Code)[51]
D.6	High Level Working Party[52]
D.7	Budget Committee
D.8	Working Party on Combating Fraud
D.9	Working Party on Insurance[53]
D.11	Export Credits Group[54]
D.14	Ad hoc Working Party on the Strengthening of the Banking Union

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs.

46 High-level representatives of the Finance Ministers.

47 12530/98, point 13, currently not active.

48 12530/98, point 13, currently not active.

49 11967/09, point 4

50 Report endorsed by ECOFIN on 17 June 2016 (9912/16, items 46 and 48).

51 Council conclusions adopted at ECOFIN on 8 March 2016 (6900/16, item 10).

52 Established to ensure the coordination of work including to achieve parallel progress on the tax package (9915/01).

53 5441/07 - Listed here since 'insurance' is dealt with by ECOFIN.

54 Tasks defined in S/477e/74, Council Decision of 27.9.1960.

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JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS	
E.1	Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA)[55]
E.2	Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion
E.3	Visa Working Party
E.4	Asylum Working Party
E.6	Working Party on Frontiers[56]
E.7	Working Party on Civil Law Matters
E.12	Working Party on Terrorism
E.13	Customs Cooperation Working Party
E.14	Working Party on Cooperation in Criminal Matters[57]
E.15	Working Party on Substantive Criminal Law
E.21	Working Party on Civil Protection (PROCIV) **
E.22	Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons (FREMP)[58]
E.23	Working Party on Information Exchange and Data Protection[59]
E.24	Justice and Home Affairs-Foreign Relations Counsellors (JAI-RELEX) Working Party[60]
E.25	Coordinating Committee in the area of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (CATS)[61]
E.26	Law Enforcement Working Party
E.27	Working Party for Schengen Matters
E.29	Ad Hoc Working Party on JHA Financial Instruments[62]

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

55 17182/11 endorsed by Coreper on 23-24 November 2011 and 12516/15 endorsed by the Council on 8 October 2015.

56 Including false documents.

57 OJ L 52, 3.3.2010, p. 50.

58 Coreper (Part 2) of 27 April 2005 (8457/05 CRS CRP 20). On 17 December 2009, Coreper decided to task this Working Party with all matters relating to fundamental rights and citizens' rights, including free movement of persons, negotiations on accession of the Union to the ECHR and the follow-up of reports from the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. The Working Party should be able to meet in different formations whenever necessary depending on the subject on the agenda. Made permanent by Coreper on 17 December 2009 (17653/09).

59 6259/5/06 REV 5, 9208/1/08 REV 1 (17653/09).

60 14431/1/08. Made permanent by Coreper on 17 December 2009 (17653/09).

61 16070/09 and 17187/11.

62 9983/18

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AGRICULTURE/FISHERIES	
F.1	High Level Group on Agriculture[63]
F.2	Working Party on Agricultural Structures and Rural Development - Agriculture and Environment - Rural Development - Outermost Regions and Aegean Islands
F.3	Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions - Simplification of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - Strengthening of Controls[64]
F.4	Working Party on the Promotion of Agricultural Products
F.5	Working Party on Genetic Resources in Agriculture
F.6	Working Party on Foodstuff Quality - Organic Farming - Geographical Indications and Designations of Origin - Certificates of Specific Character
F.8	Working Party on Agricultural Products[65] - Arable Crops - Sugar and Isoglucose - Fruit and Vegetables - Olive Oil[66]

63 13642/05. This Group meets at the level of Deputies of Ministers.
64 Including the integrated system.
65 15728/17
66 Including table olives.

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F.12	Working Party on Wines and Alcohol[67]
F.15	Working Party on Financial Agricultural Questions (AGRIFIN)
F.16	Working Party on Forestry
F.17	Working Party on Agricultural Questions - Labelling of Processed Agricultural Products - Feedingstuffs - Seeds and Propagating Material - Harmful Organisms - Pesticide Residues - Pesticides/Plant Protection Products - Plant Breeder Rights - Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)
F.18	Working Party of Chief Plant Health Officers
F.19	Working Party on Plant Health - Protection and Inspection - Propagating and Planting Materials - Roosendaal Group - International Plant Protection Convention / Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (IPPC/CPM) Affairs[68]
F.20	Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers
F.21	Working Party of Veterinary Experts - Public Health - Animal Health - Animal Welfare - Animal Husbandry - Potsdam Group
F.22	Coordination Working Party - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
F.23	Codex Alimentarius Working Party[69]
F.24	Working Party on External Fisheries Policy
F.25	Working Party on Internal Fisheries Policy
F.26	Working Party of Directors-General of Fisheries Departments
F.27	Ad Hoc Working Party on General Food Law[70]

67 Including vinegar.
68 10953/13
69 This Working Party meets in different configurations depending on the item under consideration.
70 9164/18

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COMPETITIVENESS (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space[71])	
G.1	Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth[72]
G.2	Working Party on Public Procurement
G.3	Working Party on Intellectual Property - Patents - Copyright - Design - Trademarks - Enforcement
G.4	Working Party on Company Law
G.6	Working Party on Establishment and Services
G.7	Working Party on Technical Harmonisation - Motor Vehicles - Fertilisers
G.8	Working Party on Customs Union
G.12	Working Party on Competition
G.13	Working Party on Research
G.14	Joint Working Party on Research/Atomic Questions
G.21	European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)[73]
G.22	Working Party on Space[74]
G.23	Working Party on Consumer Protection and Information
G.24	High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth[75]
G.25	High Level Working Party of the Directors General of Customs[76]

71 Following the entry into force of the TFEU, in particular Article 189, a decision to include the denomination on Space was endorsed by the European Council of 16 September 2010 on a recommendation by the General Affairs Council (GAC).

72 Including internal market, industry, better regulation and tourism. In line with the Coreper decision (14818/02), this Working Party meets in different configurations depending on the agenda.

73 This Committee is co-chaired by the Commission and an elected representative from the Member States (9342/15). The secretariat is provided by the Council Secretariat. ERAC has two dedicated configurations, namely the High Level Group on Joint Programming (GPC) and the Strategic Forum for International S&T Cooperation (SFIC), both having elected chairs from among the Member States.

74 14274/10

75 15006/14

76 14649/16

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TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY	
H.1	Working Party on Land Transport[77]
H.2	Working Party on Shipping[77]
H.3	Working Party on Aviation[77]
H.4	Working Party on Transport - Intermodal Questions and Networks[77]
H.5	Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society
H.6	Working Party on Postal Services
H.7	Working Party on Energy[78] **

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS	
I.1	Working Party on Social Questions[79]
I.2	Working Party on Public Health
I.3	Working Party on Public Health at Senior Level[80]
I.4	Working Party on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices
I.5	Working Party on Foodstuffs

ENVIRONMENT	
J.1	Working Party on the Environment
J.2	Working Party on International Environment Issues[81]

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT	
K.1	Education Committee
K.2	Youth Working Party
K.3	Cultural Affairs Committee
K.4	Audiovisual Working Party
K.5	Working Party on Sport[82]

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

77 These Working Parties also meet in special configurations according to operational needs, including as special committees provided for in Council negotiating directives.

78 Includes the High-level Working Party on Energy.

79 This Working Party covers all files and issues dealt with in the fields of employment, social policy, gender and antidiscrimination; different delegates from the competent sectors attend, depending on the subject under consideration.

80 16139/08

81 These Working Parties meet in several different configurations depending on the subject under consideration.

82 5009/1/10 REV 1

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ANNEX II

SECURITY PROCEDURES FOR MEETINGS OF COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES

Access to meeting rooms

1. Rooms where meetings are in progress are considered protected areas and may be subject to access and presence control by the organising entity or by General Secretariat staff. Meetings of certain Council configurations or meetings where sensitive matters are discussed may be subject to access and presence controls by staff from Safety and Security Directorate. For meetings where EU classified information is discussed, further details are provided below. Presence at other meetings is checked by peers under the responsibility of the chair.

2. Delegates' identification badges must be worn visibly. Room attendants may ask to verify any delegate's identification badge and, where an individual cannot produce it, request the assistance of the Safety and Security Directorate. Security officers agents are authorised to deny access or to remove any unidentified or unauthorised individuals from a meeting. Holders of day badges will only be admitted if their badges specifically authorise attendance at the meeting.

Discussion of classified items

3. All discussion of classified items must be organised in accordance with the Council's security rules for protecting EU classified information[83].

Security clearance

4. Delegates attending meetings of the Council preparatory bodies where classified items are discussed regularly must be cleared at least to the levels indicated in Annex I of this document.

5. Delegations will be reminded in advance of the security clearance requirement for any item classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above in the notice convening the meeting.

6. It is the responsibility of the meeting chair to announce the discussion of an item classified at level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above and to ensure that all delegates attending are appropriately security cleared. It is the responsibility of Member States to send only appropriately cleared representatives to such meetings. The chair may request the assistance of the Safety and Security Directorate to deal with any issues that may arise.

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[83] Council Decision 2013/488/EU (OJ L 274, 15.10.2013, pp. 1-50).

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7. For delegates (and interpreters) attending items classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above, a personnel security clearance certificate (PSCC) must be forwarded by the appropriate national authorities, the Commission Security Directorate or the EEAS Security Office to the GSC Safety and Security Directorate (security.clearances@consilium.europa.eu). Exceptionally, the original PSCC certificate may be hand-carried by the delegate concerned.

CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL

8. Discussion of items involving information classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL may take place in any meeting room. Access to meetings or items classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL is subject to spot checks conducted by the GSC Safety and Security Directorate with the assistance of the GSC official servicing the meeting. Electronic devices (portable computers, tablet devices, mobile phones, PDAs, etc.) are particularly vulnerable to being compromised for eavesdropping. Delegations must switch off such devices for the duration of items classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL. The Chair or the GSC official servicing the meeting should remind delegates of this before discussion of the item.

SECRET UE/EU SECRET

9. Discussion of items involving information classified SECRET UE/EU SECRET must always take place in the room designated for this purpose. Access to meetings or items classified SECRET UE/EU SECRET is controlled by the GSC Safety and Security Directorate with the assistance of the GSC official servicing the meeting. The Safety and Security Directorate is instructed not to allow any exceptions to the possession of a SECRET UE/EU SECRET personal security clearance, nor to allow the presence of electronic devices.

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ANNEX III

LIST OF PREPARATORY BODIES WITH A FIXED CHAIR

I.	Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs
A.2	Economic and Financial Committee
A.3	Employment Committee
A.7	Social Protection Committee
A.9	European Union Military Committee (EUMC)
A.11	Economic Policy Committee
A.12	Financial Services Committee
C.26	Military Committee Working Group (EUMCWG) - Headline Goal Task Force (HTF)
D.5	Code of Conduct Group (Business Taxation)

II.	Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
A.5	Political and Security Committee (PSC)
A.10	Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CivCom)
C.4	United Nations Working Party (CONUN)
C.5	Working Party on OSCE and the Council of Europe (COSCE)
C.6	Working Party on Human Rights (COHOM)
C.7	Working Party on Transatlantic Relations (COTRA)
C.9	Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia (COEST)
C.11	Working Party on the Western Balkans Region (COWEB)
C.12	Ad hoc Working Party on the Middle East Peace Process (COMEPP)
C.13	Middle East/Gulf Working Party (MOG)
C.14	Mashreq/Maghreb Working Party (MAMA)
C.15	Africa Working Party (COAFR)
C.17	Asia-Oceania Working Party (COASI)
C.18	Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean (COLAC)
C.20	Working Party on Non-Proliferation (CONOP)
C.21	Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM)
C.22	Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Control (CODUN)
C.25	Politico-Military Group (PMG)
C.36	Nicolaidis Group

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III.	Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council[84]
A.13	Security Committee, and its sub-areas
A.19	Ad hoc Working Party on Article 50 TEU[85]
B.9	Working Party on Information
B.11	Coordination Committee for Communication and Information Systems (CCCIS)
B.12	Working Party on Codification of Legislation
B.13	Working Party of Legal/Linguistic Experts
B.21	Working Party on E-Law

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84 Decision N° 20/2017 of the Secretary-General (DE 20/17).

85 Council Decision 2017/900 of 22 May 2017, OJ L 138, 25.5.2017, p. 138. Following the notification by the United Kingdom under Article 50 TEU, the members of the European Council, the Council and its preparatory bodies representing the United Kingdom do not participate in the discussions or in decisions concerning it.

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