



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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“I” ITEM NOTE

from: Working Party on Customs Union
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)

No. Cion prop.: 13265/12 UD 221 AELE 61 + COR 1

Subject: Amended proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an action programme for customs in the European Union for the period 2014-2020 (Customs 2020) and repealing Decision N°624/2007/EC (First reading)
- Request for a mandate to initiate trilogue meetings

1. On 29 August 2012, the Commission transmitted to the Council the above amended proposal which aims at establishing an action programme providing support for the cooperation between customs authorities and with other stakeholders, through human networking, competency building and IT capacity building. This programme is the successor of the Customs 2013 programme which ends on 31 December 2013.
2. The proposal was examined by the Working Party on Customs Union at its meetings on 25 September, 2 and 16 October and 19 November 2012. In light of comments by delegations, the Cyprus Presidency prepared a compromise text and a draft statements to be entered in the minutes of the Council, as set out in docs. 16887/12 and 16928/12 ADD 1 + ADD 2.

3. At its meeting on 5 December 2012, the Permanent Representatives Committee recommended the Council (Competitiveness) to adopt at its meeting on 10 December 2012 a partial general approach, as set out in doc. 16887/12, and to enter the two statements in doc. 16928/12 ADD 1 + ADD 2 into its minutes.
4. At its meeting on 10 December 2012, the Council (Competitiveness) adopted a partial general approach, as set out in doc. 17005/12, and decided to enter the two statements in doc. 17298/12 ADD 1 and ADD 2 into its minutes.
5. The Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee of the European Parliament (IMCO) has not yet issued its report on the above proposal but it is anticipated that it will do so shortly. It is also expected that trilogue meeting dates will soon be decided.
6. At its meeting on 6 February 2013, the Working Party on Customs Union agreed on a request for a mandate to initiate trilogue meetings, as laid down in doc. 5910/1/13 REV 1.
7. Against this background, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm the agreement of the Working Party to the mandate request.
