



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 15 March 2013

6583/13

CRS/CRP 7

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2441st meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 20 February 2013**

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31. Draft design of Portuguese commemorative coin commemorating the 250th anniversary of the construction of "Torre dos Clérigos", a monument in Oporto
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38. CDE - Centre for the Development of Enterprise
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= Date of the notification referred to in Article 3(2) of the Council Decision on signature and provisional application of the Agreement
41. Proposal for a Council Decision concluding an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the United States of America pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union
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II

44.	Preparation of the Council meeting (Justice and Home Affairs) on 7/8 March 2013	
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	- State of play	
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1. Adoption of the provisional agenda and "I" items

doc. 6531/13 OJ/CRP1 7

6544/1/13 REV 1 OJ/CRP2 7 COMIX 105

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

The following item is **added** :

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

53. Council Decision on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mali on the status of the European Union military mission to contribute to the training of the Malian Armed Forces (EUTM Mali)

6254/13 COSDP 130 PESC 152 COAFR 55 RELEX 118 CONUN 20 EUTM MALI 12

6036/13 COSDP 113 PESC 130 COAFR 47 RELEX 104 CONUN 15 EUTM MALI 8

OC 47

6047/13 COSDP 114 PESC 131 COAFR 48 RELEX 105 CONUN 16 EUTOM MALI 9

OC 48

The following items are **withdrawn**:

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

29. EU Contribution to the revision of the World Anti-Doping Code and International Standards

- **Approval of the text**

6427/13 SPORT 12 DOPAGE 3 SAN 47 JAI 103 DATAPROTECT 16

42. ASEAN : launch of bilateral FTA-negotiations with Thailand

6490/13 WTO 38 COASI 21 OC 70 RESTREINT UE

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

FR made a statement on the following item :

11. Preparation of the 198th session of the ICAO Council (Montreal, 18.2 - 15.3.2013)
- European Union coordination of a common position
6406/13 AVIATION 19 RELEX 131 ENV 117

" S'agissant de l'adoption d'une nouvelle Annexe 19, les autorités françaises constatent avec satisfaction qu'un certain nombre de leurs commentaires à la lettre aux États AN 8/3-12/42 du 29 juin 2012 ont été pris en compte pour proposer une position commune de l'Union européenne. Néanmoins, elles souhaitent pouvoir réaffirmer, lors des débats au Conseil de l'OACI, des positions propres auxquelles elles attachent une particulière importance."

Coreper Part 1

II

15. Preparation of the Council meeting (Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs) on 28 February 2013

1. Proposal for a Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee (*Non-legislative activity*)

- Political agreement

17585/12 SOC 996 ECOFIN 1060 EDUC 372 JEUN 106 REGIO 159

+ ADD 1

6197/13 SOC 88 ECOFIN 97 EDUC 43 JEUN 13 REGIO 17

The Committee

- agreed to make a minor technical amendment to the draft Recommendation;
- agreed to submit the draft Recommendation, set out in document 6197/13 as amended, to the EPSCO Council for political agreement.

2. Communication from the Commission on a "Social Investment Package" (*Non-legislative activity*)

- Presentation by the Commission

6380/13 SOC 99 ECOFIN 110

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Commission.

3. European Semester 2013 (*Non-legislative activity*)

Contribution to the European Council on 14 and 15 March 2013

- Policy debate

6199/13 SOC 89 ECOFIN 98 EDUC 44 POLGEN 20

(a) The Annual Growth Survey and the Joint Employment Report in the context of the European Semester: political guidance on employment and social policies

- Adoption of Council conclusions

- Adoption of the Joint Employment Report

16669/12 ECOFIN 984 SOC 959 COMPET 728 EDUC 358 ENV 885

RECH 433 ENER 493 FISC 180

+ ADD 2

6200/13 SOC 90 ECOFIN 98 EDUC 45

6081/13 SOC 76 ECOFIN 85 EDUC 31 JEUN 10

- (b) **Proposal for a Council Decision on Guidelines for the Employment Policies of the Member States**
 - **General approach**
17244/12 SOC 982 ECOFIN 1022 EDUC 367
+ COR 1
6178/13 SOC 84 ECOFIN 95 EDUC 40
6043/13 SOC 74 ECOFIN 82 EDUC 31
- (c) **The Social situation and trends to watch in the EU: key conclusions and policy messages (prepared by the Social Protection Committee)**
 - **Endorsement**
6138/13 SOC 83

The Committee recommended the Council

- to have a policy debate on the basis of the submitted documents and the Presidency background note 6199/12;
- to adopt the draft conclusions set out in document 6044/12;
- to adopt the Joint Employment Report set out in document 6081/13;
- to reach a general approach on the Decision on Guidelines for the Employment Policies of Member States contained in document 6178/13;
- to endorse the key conclusions and policy messages regarding the social situation and trends to watch in the EU, as prepared by the SPC and set out in document 6138/13.

- 4. **Tripartite Social Summit: Preparation of the meeting on 14 March 2013 (*Non-legislative activity*)**
 - **Information from the Presidency**

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

- 16. **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directives 2000/60/EC and 2008/105/EC as regards priority substances in the field of water policy (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
 - **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
6325/13 ENV 111 SAN 45 CHIMIE 14 AGRILEG 18 CODEC 312

The Committee agreed to modify the Presidency mandate in view of a second informal trilogue with the European Parliament. The outcome of the discussion is contained in document 6698/13.

17. Proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on the European Union's behalf with regard to certain proposals submitted to the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP 16) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (Bangkok, Thailand, 3-14 March 2013)

- **Adoption**
6307/13 ENV 110 WTO 32
6378/13 ENV 112 WTO 34
+ ADD 1

After examination of various outstanding issues, the Committee agreed, by qualified majority, on the text of the Council Decision as set out in document 6378/13 and its addendum with modifications. The Committee also agreed to forward them to the Council for adoption.

The Commission announced that it will issue a statement (doc. 6676/13 ADD 1) on the legal basis and referred to its reservation on "Introduction from the Sea".

18. Setting of the provisional agenda for the Council meeting (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 11 March 2013

The Committee agreed on the provisional agenda for the next TTE Council meeting as set out in document 7038/1/13 REV 1.

19. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2009/16/EC on port State control (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
6432/13 MAR 16 TRANS 65 SOC 101 CODEC 333

The Committee examined the outstanding issues and gave the Presidency a mandate to negotiate with the European Parliament at the informal trilogue on 27 February 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)

- **Preparation for the informal trilogue**
6319/13 TRANS 368 CODEC 2513

The Committee discussed the compromise package proposed by the Presidency, on the basis of document 6319/13, with a view to preparing the informal trilogue on 26 February 2013.

- 21. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on serious cross-border threats to health (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee took note of the oral report from the Presidency on the outcome of the first informal trilogue on 18 February 2013, particularly of the main political issues that remain to be resolved, such as recognition of emergency situations (Article 12), preparedness planning (Article 4) and level and rules of procedure of the Health Security Committee.

- 22. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the annual financial statements, consolidated financial statements and related reports of certain types of undertakings (Accounting Directive) (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee took note of the debriefing by the Presidency on the outcome of the fifth informal trilogue on 18 February 2013.

- 23. Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/98/EC on re-use of public sector information (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Presidency reported on the outcome of the 2nd trilogue of 18 February 2013, noting in particular the EP's and Commission's views on the issue of the impartial review body, including in relation with exceptions under Article 6, and announced that the 3rd trilogue was tentatively planned for the second half of March 2013.

- 24. Preparation of the Council meeting (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 25 and 26 February 2013**

- 1. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Common Fisheries Policy (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **General approach**
12514/11 PECHE 187 CODEC 1166
11322/12 PECHE 227 CODEC 1657
6304/13 PECHE 52 CODEC 307
+ COR 1
6108/1/13 PECHE 46 CODEC 255 REV 1

The Committee discussed the outstanding issues for finalizing the general approach. The Council Legal Service took the floor to inform about its views on Article 16(1).

It stressed that Article 16(1), insofar as it reproduces the formulation of the principle of relative stability, could be regarded as a specific measure on the allocation of fishing opportunities, hence falling within the Council's prerogatives under Article 43(3) TFEU rather than within the legislator powers under Article 43(2) TFEU.

The Chairman concluded that Article 5 (definitions) has been agreed, and that changes to Articles 12, 15 and 16 should be further discussed at Council.

The item is retained on the Council's agenda.

2. Morocco - new Protocol under the Fisheries Partnership Agreement (*Non-legislative activity*)

- **Information from the Commission on the current state of play**
6333/13 PECHE 54

The Committee prepared the item, which is retained on the Council's agenda.

Coreper Part 2

II

44. Preparation of the Council meeting (Justice and Home Affairs) on 7/8 March 2013

a) SIS II

- State of play

i) **Draft Council Decision 2013/.../EU of 2013 fixing the date of application of Decision 2007/533/JHA on the establishment, operation and use of the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II)**

ii) **Draft Council Decision 2013/.../EU of 2013 fixing the date of application of Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 on the establishment, operation and use of the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II)**

6417/13 JAI 101 SIRIS 19 COMIX 99

6418/13 JAI 102 SIRIS 20 COMIX 100

6429/13 JAI 104 SIRIS 21 COMIX 101

+ COR 1

The Committee confirmed the discussions held at the Mixed Committee and took note of the following declaration of the Commission:

"Pursuant to Article 55(3)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment, operation and use of the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) and Article 71(3)(c) of Council Decision 2007/533/JHA on the establishment, operation and use of the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II), the Commission declares the successful completion of the comprehensive test of SIS II, which was conducted by the Commission together with the Member States".

b) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Presidency presented the updated agenda as set out in CM 1632/13.

The Presidency confirmed it was continuing consultations with delegations in connection with the proposal for a Council Decision on the framework for the full application of the provisions of the Schengen acquis to Bulgaria and Romania following an indication, from two delegations, that they were not ready to adopt the decision at this stage.

45. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 5 March 2013
- Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Committee reviewed the state of readiness of the agenda items listed.

46. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 11 March 2013

The Committee took note of the practical arrangements on the forthcoming General Affairs Council on 11 March 2013. The March General Affairs Council will focus on the preparations of the European Council on 14/15 March 2013.

47. Cohesion Policy legislative package (First reading)

- **Elements of a partial general approach**
5609/13 FSTR 4 FC 3 REGIO 8 SOC 45 AGRISTR 6 PECHE 24 CADREFIN 14
CODEC 136
+ ADD 1 to 5

The Committee examined the proposals and invited the Council:

- to agree, as an A-Item, on the partial general approach on the Cohesion Policy legislative package as set out in ADD 1 to 3 REV 1 to document 5609/1/13 REV 1, subject to the principle 'that nothing is agreed until everything is agreed';
- to agree, as an A-Item, on a general approach on the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) Regulation as set out in ADD 4 REV 1 to document 5609/1/13 REV 1 and
- to enter into its minutes the statements set out in ADD 5 REV 1 to document 5609/1/13 REV 1.

48. Follow-up to the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 18 February 2013

- **Syria (*restricted session*)**

As a follow-up to FAC discussion and conclusions on Syria, the Committee examined a draft Council Decision extending restrictive measures against Syria and providing for exemptions to the arms embargo against that country, as submitted by EEAS on behalf of the High Representative. The Committee will revert to this issue in one of its upcoming meetings, with a view to reaching an agreement on time for adoption of the Council Decision before expiry of the restrictive measures against Syria on 1 March 2013.

49. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs) on 11 March 2013

The Executive Secretary General of the EEAS informed the Committee of the way in which the High Representative intends to conduct the exchange of views at the Foreign Affairs Council on 11 March 2013.

The Council is expected to start at 9H30.

The main items foreseen for discussion, at the stage, are: Russia, Southern Neighbourhood, and Japan.

50. EU-Japan Summit

- Orientation debate

6498/13 COASI 22 ASIE 6 PESC 183 RELEX 142 POLGEN 19
WTO 39 ECOFIN 117 ENER 45 RESTREINT UE

The Committee had a preliminary discussion in relation to the preparations and priorities for the next EU-Japan Summit on the basis of document 6498/13 RESTREINT UE. The debate provided input for further preparations in the relevant preparatory bodies of the Council as regards the content of the Summit agenda and its joint statement.

The Committee noted a high level of agreement for the broadening and strengthening of the EU-Japan relationship, including through the launch of negotiations for a Framework Agreement and a Free Trade Agreement with Japan.

The Committee decided to revert to the issue in late March.

51. Preparation of the EU-Ukraine Summit

The Committee had an exchange of views on preparations for the EU-Ukraine Summit (Brussels, 25 February 2013) on the basis of an oral presentation by the European External Action Service. Delegations expressed broad support for the approach proposed and emphasised the tight timetable for Ukraine to make tangible progress in fulfilling the conditions for signing the Association Agreement, including DCFTA, by or at the Vilnius European Partnership Summit in November 2013, but also for the EU to complete the necessary technical procedures.

52. EU-Georgia Visa Dialogue: Visa Liberalisation Action Plan
6595/13 COEST 36 JAI 123 VISA 41

The Committee discussed the methodology section of the Action Plan on Visa Liberalisation for Georgia and reached an ad referendum agreement on the text.

- **Any other business**
 - **Informal ministerial meeting on "Mislabelling of beef products"**
 - **Information from the Presidency**

The Committee took note of the information presented by the Presidency and the Commission.

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