



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 8 April 2013

8170/13

AGRI 224
FAO 14

'T' ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: COREPER I
Subject: Fourteenth Regular Session of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for
 Food and Agriculture (Rome, 15-19 April 2013)

The Annex to this note contains a statement by the Commission concerning the declaration of competence and voting rights for the fourteenth regular Session of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

The Permanent Representatives' Committee is invited to take note and to enter the statement in the minutes of its meeting.

No other action on the issue is required at Coreper level.

**Commission's Statement
to the minutes of the 2447th meeting of COREPER Part I**

Brussels, 10 April 2013

**I item [...]: 14th session of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (FAO, Rome 15-19 April 2013)
European Commission statement on the Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights**

The Commission considers that, on the basis of the 1991/95 arrangements, points 2.4 of the agenda which relates to access and benefit-sharing arrangements for genetic resources for food and agriculture should be classified as EU vote. This item concerns matters which fall to a large extent under EU competence and have in part already been covered by existing acquis. This item is the subject of an international agreement (the Nagoya Protocol) which has, for most parts, been signed by the EU and which affects the acquis and alters its scope. The work on the transposition of this Protocol in EU law has started with a proposal for a regulation presented by the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament in October 2012. The ratification process of the Protocol by the EU has also started and the proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol presented by the Commission to the Council in October 2012 is about to be adopted.