



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat

to: Permanent Representatives Committee / Council

No. Cion prop.: 10785/12 RC 12 CH 20 AELE 38 - COM(2012) 244 final
10786/12 RC 13 CH 21 AELE 39 - COM(2012) 245 final

Subject: Proposal for a Council Decision on the **signing** of an Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation concerning cooperation on the application of their competition laws
- Adoption
Proposal for a Council Decision on the **conclusion** of an Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation concerning cooperation on the application of their competition laws
- Request by the Council for the consent of the European Parliament

COMMON GUIDELINES

Consultation deadline for Croatia: 17.4.2013

1. The European Commission submitted the above proposals to the Council on 1 June 2012.
2. These proposals follow the Council's decision of 10 December 2010 to authorise the Commission to open negotiations with the Swiss Confederation concerning cooperation on the application of their competition laws.

3. On 2 July 2012, the Working Party on Competition reached an agreement on the proposals subject to lifting the scrutiny reservations entered by DE, IE, FR and UK delegations. Subsequently, these delegations have lifted their scrutiny reservations.
4. The texts have been finalised by legal-linguistic experts.
5. Consequently, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm the agreement reached by the Working Party and to suggest that the Council, at one of its forthcoming meetings,
 - (a) decides on the signature, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation concerning cooperation on the application of their competition laws as set out in doc. 12416/12 RC 20 CH 28 AELE 55 OC 401 and 12513/12 RC 22 CH 30 AELE 58 OC 413; and
 - (b) requests the consent of the European Parliament on the text of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation concerning cooperation on the application of their competition laws as set out in doc. 12513/12 with a view to the adoption of the Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement (doc. 12418/12 RC 21 CH 29 AELE 56 OC 402).