



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 8 May 2013

9207/13

**PE-L 37
INST 223
PI 67**

“I” ITEM NOTE

from : Working Party on General Affairs
to : Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)

No. prev. doc. : doc. 9107/13 PE-L 34 INST 217 PI 62
doc. 9108/13 PE-L 35 INST 218 PI 63

Subject: Draft reply to the letter of Mr Lehne, Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs of the European Parliament: Request for access to the mandate for negotiations regarding the conclusion of the WIPO Treaty to conclude a Treaty to facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities
= Approval of a reply*

1. In a letter dated 26 April 2013, the Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs of the European Parliament asked the Council to grant Parliament access to the mandate for negotiations regarding the conclusion of the WIPO Treaty to conclude a Treaty to facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities.
2. The Working Party on General Affairs considered the matter at its meeting on 3 May and prepared a draft reply.
3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to approve the attached letter, in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure (Article 19(7)(k)).

* Item on which a procedural decision may be adopted by the Coreper pursuant to Article 19 (7)(k) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

Council of the European Union

Brussels, 2013

DRAFT REPLY

Mr Klaus-Heiner LEHNE, MEP
Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs
European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli
Rue Wiertz, 60
1047 Brussels

Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 26 April 2013 to the President of the Council concerning a request for access to the mandate for negotiations regarding the conclusion of the WIPO Treaty to conclude a Treaty to facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU.

Since 2012 preparations have been underway on new arrangements to be put in place concerning the forwarding to and handling by the European Parliament of classified information held by the Council on matters other than those in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy. However, until these arrangements enter into force the current practice as set out in the letter from the chair of the Permanent Representatives Committee of 3 December 2010 to Mr Albertini, as described below, continues to apply.

The Council is pleased to inform you that it is ready to grant access to yourself as Committee Chair, the Rapporteur and the coordinators of the political groups to the Council Decision of 26 November 2012 on the participation of the European Union in the negotiations for an international agreement within the World Intellectual Property Organisation on improved access to books for print impaired persons.

Access will be arranged within a secure room on the Council premises. In accordance with the Council's security regulations for protecting EU classified information, it is understood that the document itself will remain in the possession of the Council, and that no subsequent direct reference to the detailed contents should be made in any public meetings.

For the purposes of consulting the document, the European Parliament is invited to inform the office of Mr Pillath, Director General in the General Secretariat of the Council, of the names of the Members concerned, as well as of the dates and times they wish to come to the Council.

Yours faithfully,

R. MONTGOMERY
Chairman of the
Permanent Representatives Committee
