



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Brussels, 7 June 2013

CM 3216/13

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COMMUNICATION

WRITTEN PROCEDURE

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Subject: Proposal for a Council Decision establishing the European Union position within the TRIPS Council of the World Trade Organisation on the request for an extension of the transition period under TRIPS Article 66.1 for least-developed countries

On 27 May 2013 the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision establishing the European Union position within the TRIPS Council of the World Trade Organisation on the request for an extension of the transition period under TRIPS Article 66.1 for least-developed countries (doc. 10069/13).

The Council Decision was inscribed for formal adoption as an "A" item at the 3244th Justice and Home Affairs Council on 5/6 June 2013, but was eventually withdrawn.

In fact, the Commission has indicated that the evolution of the negotiations in Geneva on the request for an extension of the transition period TRIPS Article 66.1 for least-developed countries warrants a modification of the proposal for the Council Decision.

The Trade Policy Committee at its meeting on 7 June 2013 reached agreement on the modification of Article 1, paragraph 1 of the above-mentioned Council Decision.

The European Union position on this issue must be expressed at the Council for TRIPS of the World Trade Organisation on 11 June 2013.

In view of the urgency of the matter, the Presidency has proposed using a written procedure pursuant to Article 12 of the Council's Rules of Procedure¹.

Please state whether you agree to:

- the use of the written procedure;
- the adoption of the above Council Decision, as set out after legal and linguistic editing in doc. 10073/1/13 REV 1.

Please answer "YES" or "NO" **to each of the above two questions**; you may also reply "**ABSTAIN**" on the second question.

Any unilateral statement should be made separately.

Replies must reach the General Secretariat of the Council **by 15h00 on Monday, 10 June 2013**, either by fax to Mr PARNISARI (+32.2.281.73.74) or by e-mail to: secretariat.polcom@consilium.europa.eu.

¹ OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35., Corrigendum, OJ L 55, 5.3.2010, p. 83.