



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 15 July 2013

12258/13

**Interinstitutional File:
2012/0342 (COD)**

**RC 32
COMPET 562
ECO 140
MI 636
RECH 348
IND 209
ENV 699
REGIO 153
TELECOM 201
ENER 362
EF 147
AUDIO 85
CULT 87
SPORT 69**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Coreper/Council

Subject: Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Article 93 of the EC Treaty
– Adoption

1. On 6 December, 2012, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Article 93 of the EC Treaty (Procedural Regulation), based on Article 109 TFEU.

2. The proposal is part of a comprehensive reform of the State aid framework launched by the Commission Communication on "*EU State aid modernisation (SAM)*"¹ on 8 May 2012 with a view to ensuring that State aid policy contributes both to the implementation of the Europe 2020 agenda² and to budget consolidation.
3. The proposal aims at more efficient and transparent procedures as regards State aid by increasing the quality of the complaints submitted to the Commission, improving the efficiency and reliability of the Commission's data-gathering process and reinforcing the existing cooperation between the Commission and national courts.
4. On 29 May 2013, the Competitiveness Council adopted a general approach on the proposal.
5. On 2 July 2013, the European Parliament adopted its opinion on the proposal (consultation procedure in accordance with Article 109 TFEU) which is broadly in line with the Council's general approach.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore asked to confirm the general approach and to suggest that the Council:
 - adopts the Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Article 93 of the EC Treaty, as set out in doc. 11139/13, as an "A" item at a forthcoming meeting;
 - orders that the statements in the addendum to this note be entered in the minutes of that meeting.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, *EU State Aid Modernisation (SAM)*, 8.05.2012, COM(2012) 209 final.

² Communication from the Commission, *Europe 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*, 3.3.2010, COM(2010) 2020 final.