



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 12 July 2013  
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2012/0062 (COD)**

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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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**From:** General Secretariat of the Council  
**To:** Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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**Subject:** Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2009/16/EC on port State control (**first reading**)  
- Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)  
= Statement

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**Statement by Austria**

"Austria is aware of the significance of the Maritime Labour Convention, which is an important step towards improving the living and working conditions of seafarers on ships. Accordingly, Austria welcomes efforts made to implement the Maritime Labour Convention in the largest possible number of States.

On the other hand, maritime transport is less important to a landlocked state such as Austria, not least because the shipping register has been closed for commercial vessels. In this regard Austria is therefore no longer a flag State.

Austria would not wish to obstruct the other Member States in any way, should they ratify the Maritime Labour Convention within the meaning of the proposed Directives. As the implementation of this Convention requires a significant administrative and financial commitment, which is entirely disproportionate to the Convention's relevance for Austria, Austria does not intend to ratify the Maritime Labour Convention."

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