



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 18 July 2013**

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

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**12258/1/13  
REV 1**

**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**

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

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**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

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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)*"<sup>1</sup> on 8 May 2012 with a view to ensuring that State aid policy contributes both to the implementation of the Europe 2020 agenda<sup>2</sup> 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, with the Belgian, Hungarian and Austrian delegations voting against, 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.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

7. After being signed by the President of the Council, the Council Regulation (non-legislative act) will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.
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