



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 1 December 2010

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REV 2**

**PARLNAT 155
FIN 663
INST 548**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: Presidency
to: Coreper (part 2)/Council
Subject: Draft Budget 2011:
= Information to National Parliaments

1. On 26 November 2010, the Commission adopted a new draft budget for 2011 on the basis of Article 314(8) of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union.
2. The Council has to decide, considering the urgency of the matter, to shorten, in accordance with Article 3(3) of its Rules of procedure, the eight-week period as well as the ten days period laid down in Article 4 of Protocol No 1 on the role of National Parliaments in the European Union, in order to allow it to adopt a position¹ on the new proposal for a draft budget 2011 on 10 December 2010.

¹ The Council position on the draft 2011 budget will have to contain a recital stating that "*given the need to adopt a Council position on the new draft budget proposal as soon as possible with a view to a budget being definitively adopted before the beginning of financial year 2011, thus ensuring the continuity of the Union's action, it is justified to shorten the eight-week period laid down in Article 4 of the Protocol n° 1 for the information of the National Parliaments, as well as the ten-day period for the placing of the item on the Council's provisional agenda, in accordance with Article 3(3) of the Council's Rules of procedure*".

3. National parliaments have to be informed thereof.
 4. Accordingly, the **Permanent Representatives Committee** is requested to suggest that, as an "A" item on the agenda for one of its forthcoming meetings, the **Council** :
 - decides to shorten the eight-week period as well as the ten days period referred to above in accordance with Article 3(3) of its Rules of Procedure;
 - approves the attached communication (annex I) to be addressed to National Parliaments by the General Secretariat of the Council.
 5. The Danish and UK delegations announced their intention to abstain. The UK delegation announced its intention to make a statement for the Council minutes (annex II).
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THE EUROPEAN UNION**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Brussels,

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PARLNAT

COMMUNICATION

INFORMATION TO MEMBER STATES' PARLIAMENTS

Contact: Interinstitutional Relations Directorate
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Draft budget 2011

As you know, the Conciliation Committee convened in the framework of the budgetary procedure¹ could not reach agreement on the draft budget 2011 submitted by the Commission on 16 June 2010. This has led to a new draft budget being submitted by the Commission on the basis of Article 314(8) of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union. The new draft reproduces substantially the position, as published in OJ C 222 of 17 August 2010, which the Council adopted on the original Commission proposal and which had been previously forwarded to you.

The Council considers that there is a chance to avoid the major disruption in the activities of the European Union that the absence of an EU budget would entail as from 1 January 2011, provided that very swift action is taken by all actors. In this perspective, the Council wishes to inform

¹ See article 314 (5) of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union.

National Parliaments that it has to shorten, in accordance with Article 3(3) of its Rules of procedure, the eight-week period as well as the ten days period laid down in Article 4 of Protocol No 1 on the role of National Parliaments in the European Union and adopt a position on the new proposal for a draft budget 2011 on 10 December 2010.

The Council trusts that the urgency of the matter will be widely understood and shared by National Parliaments.

For the Secretary-General

Jim CLOOS
Deputy Director-General,
General Policy Questions and
Interinstitutional Relations

Statement by the UK delegation

The UK notes the important new provisions which the Lisbon Treaty has introduced in respect of the role of national parliaments, including notably Protocol number 1, and the importance of its proper implementation in this first full year following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty.

Given the seriousness with which the UK government and national parliament view this measure, the UK regrets that it has not been possible to comply in these cases with the provisions contained within that Protocol, and expresses its clear expectation that the 8 week deadline of the Protocol will continue to be observed in all but the most exceptional and urgent cases.