

# 061903/EU XXIV.GP Eingelangt am 21/10/11

# COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 27 June 2011

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PV CONS 27 RELEX 515

## **ADDENDUM to DRAFT MINUTES**

Subject: 3086th meeting of the Council of the European Union (FOREIGN

AFFAIRS/TRADE), held in Brussels on 13 May 2011

## **PUBLIC DELIBERATION ITEMS** <sup>1</sup>

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Deliberations on Union legislative acts (Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union), other deliberations open to the public and public debates (Article 8 of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

#### LEGISLATIVE DELIBERATIONS

(Public deliberation in accordance with Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union)

### 2. Proposal for a regulation on applying the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)

- First presentation 10052/11 SPG 9 WTO 205 CODEC 796

<u>The Council</u> took note of the presentation by the Commission of its proposal for the comprehensive review of the EU GSP and had a first exchange of views on the issue.

<u>Member States</u> welcomed the proposal for updating the current GSP framework and rendering it more efficient and better tailored to address the particular needs of its beneficiary countries.

<u>The Presidency</u> will start in the relevant Council group the detailed technical examination of the proposal already next week. The Council will work closely with the European Parliament under the ordinary legislative procedure, with a view to putting in place as soon as possible the new updated GSP framework.

# 3. Regulation establishing transitional agreements for Bilateral Investment Agreements between Member States and third countries

- State of play 11953/10 WTO 252 FDI 12

<u>The Council</u> took note of the information by the Commission on the state of play and future steps in the examination of the proposed Regulation establishing transitional arrangements for Bilateral Investment Agreements between Member States and third countries, as well as of the ensuing exchange of views.

The Council took the opportunity to reiterate that, with a view to maintaining the potential of foreign direct investment as a major source of growth and prosperity for the EU, any new framework to be put in place must ensure full legal certainty and maximum protection for EU investors; and maintain the EU as a preferred destination for foreign direct investment.

10199/11 ADD 1 DOPG ET

Member States have acknowledged the need for a new framework consistent with the Lisbon Treaty to be put in place as soon as possible, so that legal clarity be ensured beyond any doubt. To that end, the Council confirmed its readiness to examine, in a constructive manner, the views taken by the European Parliament on the proposal and to work expeditiously towards elaborating its own position. The Council strongly believes that a constructive, pragmatic and flexible approach by all three institutions involved in this process is a prerequisite for arriving at an early agreement on a comprehensive framework, fully responding to the key objectives of this exercise.

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