



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 18 January 2012

**7174/08
EXT 1**

**USA 11
PESC 282
RELEX 141
ECOFIN 99
ENER 68
TRANS 65
JAI 108
ENV 138
DEVGEN 26
POLGEN 22**

PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION

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	– State of preparations

Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.



ANNEX

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Brussels, 3 March 2008

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NOTE

From : Presidency
To : COREPER

Subject : EU-US Summit
 – State of preparations

Delegations will find attached a paper from the Presidency, drawn up in cooperation with the GSC and the Commission. This paper aims to serve as a basis for discussion about the forthcoming EU-US Summit to be held in June in Ljubljana. The outcome of this discussion will provide guidance during the negotiations.

Assessment of the EU-US Relationship in 2007, and outcome of the 2007 EU-US Summit

In 2007, cooperation on most policy areas saw further improvement. The US recognised climate change as a problem and agreed to the Bali Action Plan. Summit successes included the establishment of the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) and the signature of the first stage Air Transport Agreement. There was close cooperation on foreign policy on: the Balkans **NOT DECLASSIFIED** Eastern Europe, **NOT DECLASSIFIED** the Middle East Peace Process, where the Annapolis talks marked a welcome renewal in US engagement. There was also significant progress on cooperation in crisis management. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Outlook for the 2008 EU-US Summit – themes and objectives

The EU-US Summit should be exploited fully as a forum for strategic dialogue and agreement. The Ljubljana Summit will be the last of the Bush administration **NOT DECLASSIFIED** The EU and US should continue to maintain, or seek, unity of purpose on key regional challenges including **NOT DECLASSIFIED**, the Middle East Peace Process, Russia and the Western Balkans. The EU should ensure continued momentum in ongoing dialogues and negotiations with the US to secure continuity after 2008. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

The issues for discussion at the Summit can be divided into three baskets:

I. Regional/Security Issues

The Summit provides an important opportunity to agree approaches and cooperation on a number of key issues: to send a message of support to the countries of the Western Balkans engaged in the process of European integration; to reflect on joint approaches towards the Middle East Peace Process, **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

On domestic security, the main questions are the Visa Waiver Programme and 100% scanning of containers. **NOT DECLASSIFIED** The EU should welcome recent US efforts to include additional MS. The EU should also reiterate a need to work closely with the US on this issue. On the future requirement for 100 per cent scanning of containers bound for the US **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

II. Economic Issues

The question will arise of how to tackle the slowdown of activity in both economies. The EU and the US should affirm their willingness to show leadership in promoting the WTO/DDA process and a free and open world trading system. Given increasing concerns about state-directed foreign investment **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Bilaterally, further progress should be sought on opening up economic opportunities in the transatlantic economy. The TEC needs to achieve progress which cements its credibility with stakeholders and provides a long-term perspective for its work. The EU and US have shared interest in the success of the TEC, including concrete results to be achieved by the 2008 Summit. Commission services and US administration are working to develop a balanced agenda of issues presenting wins for both sides. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

The first stage air transport agreement with the US comes into force on 31 March.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

III. Global Issues

NOT DECLASSIFIED The EU should aim for a forward-looking statement of principles which would cover, based on the Bali outcome: (i) global goals and targets, (ii) how to promote these global issues, notably via market-based instruments and development/dissemination of technology, and (iii) engaging emerging economies and addressing deforestation and adaptation measures.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

On energy, the way needs to be prepared for a constructive discussion at the Summit on strategic energy security issues such as alternative supply routes from the Caucasus and Central Asia. The annual meeting of the EU-US Strategic Energy Review should facilitate Summit agreement on: (i) biofuels, (ii) joint approaches to energy research in areas such as carbon capture & storage, and renewables, (iii) co-operation on promoting an international platform on energy efficiency.

NOT DECLASSIFIED

2008 will see the third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness and the Financing For Development review conference. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Next steps

COREPER II is invited to consider this document. Preparations for the Summit will also be discussed at the EU-US FM Troika on 6 March.

In the light of the outcome of these meetings, the Presidency, assisted by the Commission and Council Secretariat, will commence drafting the Summit statement with a view to transmitting a first proposal to the US in early April. The aim should be to craft a concise, predominantly operational document with a limited number of clear, carefully selected messages structured around the three themes of regional/security issues, economic issues and global issues, together with an introduction on the strategic importance and the durability of the transatlantic relationship.