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NOTE

from:	General Secretariat
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Preparation G 20 - Meeting of Labour and Employment Ministers - Information from the Presidency and the Commission

Delegations will find attached an information note on the preparations for the G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial, to be held on 17-18 May 2012 in Guadalajara, Mexico, with a view to the meeting of the EPSCO Council on 17 February 2012 (Any Other Business item).

**Commission information note about the preparations to the G20 Labour and Employment
Ministers Meeting on 17-18 May 2012 in Guadalajara, Mexico**

Context:

- G20 Leaders meeting in Cannes in November 2011 under the G20 French Presidency agreed that employment must be at the heart of the actions and policies to restore growth and confidence that they undertake under the Framework for strong, sustainable and balanced growth.

- G20 Leaders also confirmed:
 - Commitment to renew efforts to combat unemployment and promote decent jobs, especially for youth and others who have been most affected by the economic crisis.

 - Importance of investing in nationally determined social protection floors in each of G20 countries;

 - Commitment to promote and ensure full respect of the fundamental principles and rights at work.

 - Determination to strengthen the social dimension of globalisation, and confirmed that social and employment issues, alongside economic, monetary and financial issues, will remain an integral part of the G20 agenda. They called on international organisations to intensify their coordination and make it more effective.

 - The essential role of the social dialogue.

- G20 Leaders also endorsed the agreement made during the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting on 26-27 September 2011 in Paris of setting up an intergovernmental G20 Task Force on Employment, with an initial focus on young people that will provide practical input to the discussions during the G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial Meeting under the G20 Mexican Presidency.

Dialogue on employment and social affairs under the G20 Mexican Presidency:

- Building on these outcomes the Mexican G20 Presidency will continue efforts to strengthen employment and social aspects of the G20 process in view of the next G20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting on 17-18 May 2012 in Guadalajara in Mexico. The Ministerial conclusions will contribute to the G20 Summit in Los Cabos on 16-18 June 2012.
- Discussions among G20 Labour and Employment Ministers will contribute to identifying the policies and programs that ensure the necessary conditions for the creation of quality green jobs, especially for the young. In this context the G20 Mexican Presidency identified the following priorities for the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting in May:

- Youth employment;

The first meeting of the G20 Task Force on Employment took place on the 15 December 2011 in Mexico City. Exchanges among technical experts have started with the aim to identifying mechanisms that promote the creation of quality jobs for youth and effective school-to work transitions. The outcome will be an input, in the form of a Strategy/ Action Plan, to discussions of the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers in May.

- Quality employment which implies decent, formal jobs, with social protection and labour rights;

- Green growth and quality employment which includes job potential stemming from the transfer to a green economy, the need to secure fair transitions of workers, labour market policies and social protection that should accompany structural transformations of the economy.
- Three preparatory meetings will lead to the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting in May: on 14 February in Mexico City, on 27 March (the meeting of the Task Force) and on 28 of March (2nd preparatory meeting) in Geneva and on 15 May in Guadalajara, prior to the Ministerial meeting in Mexico.
- Consultations with international labour and business representatives are foreseen prior to the Ministerial meeting, on 17 May in Guadalajara. Social partners will be also consulted during the preparatory meetings in Geneva in the end of March. ILO and OECD will also provide input for the Ministerial discussions.
- The G20 Mexican Presidency foresees the following deliverables in view of the G20 Summit in Los Cabos in the area of labour and employment:
 - A bank or electronic library of policies designed and implemented to meet the challenges of youth employment;
 - G-20 Strategy/ Action Plan on Youth Employment to identify the best policy responses to meet the challenges of youth employment;
 - Conclusions of the G20 Ministers of Labour and Employment.
- B20 (Business Summit), L20 (Labour Summit) and Y20 (Youth Meeting) are foreseen prior to the G20 Summit in Los Cabos.

Conclusion:

The Commission will inform the Council about the preparatory process and prepare, in cooperation with the Danish Presidency, the draft EU Guidelines for the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico to be discussed in the Council's Social Questions Working Party.
