



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 23 February 2012

**Interinstitutional Files:
2011/0463 (NLE)**

**6759/12
ADD 1**

**UD 47
COTRA 4
COTER 11
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ADDENDUM TO THE "I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat

to : Permanent Representatives Committee / Council

No. Cion prop.: 5159/12 UD 7 COTRA 1 COTER 2 WTO 12

No. Prev. doc. 6004/12 UD 31 COTRA 2 COTER 8 WTO 34

Subject : Adoption of a Council Decision on a Union position within the EU-U.S. Joint Customs Cooperation Committee regarding mutual recognition of the Authorised Economic Operator Programme of the European Union and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program of the United States

COMMON GUIDELINES

Consultation deadline: 05/03/2012

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL

The Council fully supports the Decision to enter into AEO mutual recognition with the US which will secure the international supply chain and facilitate trade between the European Union and the USA.

Realising that Section V, third paragraph forth indent and the treatment of data by the Contracting Parties, is of national importance to the USA, the EU and its Member States have agreed to its inclusion on an exceptional basis.

Should other third countries wish to have such a provision included in an EU-third country agreement, these will be assessed case by case, taking into consideration data protection and other relevant legal provisions.