



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 1 March 2012

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ADDENDUM TO THE "I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: COREPER/COUNCIL

Subject: Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2008 to 2013 as part of the General programme "Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows" and repealing Council Decision 2004/904/EC **[first reading]**
- Adoption
(a) of the Council's position
(b) of the statement of the Council's reasons
- Statements

COMMON GUIDELINES
Consultation deadline: 7 March 2012

Statement of the Commission

The Commission, in a spirit of compromise and in order to ensure the immediate adoption of the proposal, supports the final text; however it notes that this is without prejudice to its right of initiative with regard to the choice of legal bases, in particular in reference to the future use of Article 80 TFEU.

Statement of the Council

The Council states that the present decision is without prejudice to the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014-2020 and consequently also for the negotiations on the “Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund” for the period 2014-2020 (COM(2011) 751), including whether specific common EU resettlement priorities, based inter alia on geographical criteria, shall be stipulated in the Regulation on the Asylum and Migration Fund for 2014-2020.
