



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 13 April 2012**

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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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from: General Secretariat of the Council  
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part I)/Council

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No. prev. doc.: 6068/12 SOC 87 ECOFIN 97 EDUC 32 + COR 1  
No. Cion prop.: 17736/11 SOC 1045 ECOFIN 835 EDUC 278

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Subject: Proposal for a Council Decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States  
- Adoption

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1. On 25 November 2011, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Decision of the Council on Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States, based on Article 148(2) TFEU, considering that the guidelines for Member States' employment policies as set out in the Annex to Council Decision of 21 October 2010<sup>1</sup> should be maintained for 2012.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Decision 2010/707/UE of 21 October 2010 on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States (OJ L 308, 24.11.2010, p. 46).

2. The European Parliament adopted its Opinion on the proposal on 15 February 2012, agreeing with the Commission's proposal to maintain the 2010 Employment Guidelines.  
The Employment Committee finalised its Opinion on 31 January 2012, similarly supporting the Commission proposal (doc. 5730/12). The Committee of Regions has informed the Council that it will not submit an opinion on the proposal (doc. 7714/12).
3. At its session on 17 February 2012, the Council (EPSCO), reached a general approach on the proposal, on the understanding that it would be reconsidered once all the opinions required by Article 148(2) of the Treaty had been received and when the conclusions of the March European Council were available.
4. The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion on 22 February 2012.
5. The European Council, at its meeting on 1-2 March 2012, considered the employment situation of the Union and adopted conclusions thereon.
6. The text of the draft Decision, as finalised by the Legal/Linguistic Experts, is contained in document 7946/12 SOC 214 ECOFIN 275 EDUC 70.
7. The Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council to adopt the draft Decision as set out in document 7946/12, as an "A" item at a forthcoming session.

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