



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 18 April 2012

8428/12

**FIN 241
FSTR 28
REGIO 44
CADREFIN 175**

"I" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Permanent Representatives Committee

Subject: Special report No 2/2012: Financial instruments for SMEs co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund

1. On 29 March 2012, the General Secretariat of the Council received Special report No 2/2012 "Financial instruments for SMEs co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund" together with the Commission's replies (doc. 8427/12 FIN 240 FSTR 27 REGIO 43 CADREFIN 174¹).
2. Under the rules laid down in the Council conclusions on improving the examination of special reports drawn up by the Court of Auditors², it is suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee instruct the Working Party on Structural Measures to examine that report in accordance with those rules.

¹ In English only. The other languages of this special report are available on the European Court of Auditor's website: <http://eca.europa.eu/>.

² 7515/00 FIN 127 + COR 1.