



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 13 July 2012

12343/12

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**ACP 121
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OC 396**

“I/A” ITEM NOTE

from:	ACP Working Party
to	Permanent Representatives Committee / Council
No. Cion prop.:	12409/12 - COM(2012) 387 final
Subject:	Draft Council Decision on the financial contributions to be paid by the Member States to finance the European Development Fund in 2012, including the 2nd instalment 2012 - Adoption COMMON GUIDELINES Consultation deadline for Croatia: 22.7.2012

1. On 10 July 2012 the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the financial contributions to be paid by the Member States to finance the European Development Fund in 2012¹.

In accordance with Article 57(3) of the Financial Regulation applicable to the 10th European Development Fund (EDF)², the proposed Council Decision relates to:

¹ Doc. 12409/12.

² OJ L 78, 19.3.2008, p. 1.

- a revised annual amount of Member States' contributions for the 2012 financial year, and
- the amount of the second instalment of Member States' contributions for the 2012 financial year.

Concerning the annual amount for 2012, the Commission has proposed to lower it to 2 600 000 000 EURO for the funds it manages (funds managed by the EIB remain unchanged). This will result in a reduction of 1 000 000 000 EURO compared to the Decision of 18 November 2011 which had set the 2012 total for the Commission at 3 600 000 000 EURO¹.

Under Article 57(3) of the Financial Regulation, the Council shall decide on the proposal at the latest 21 calendar days following the presentation by the Commission, and the Member States must pay the second instalment of contributions at the latest 21 calendar days following the date on which the Council Decision was notified to them.

2. On 13 July 2012, the ACP Working Party agreed on the revised annual amount of Member States' contributions for 2012, including the second instalment for 2012, as set out in the Commission proposal.
3. The Working Party recommends that the Permanent Representatives Committee invite the Council to adopt, as an "A" item on its agenda, the draft Council Decision set out in document 12344/12, acting by the qualified majority provided for in Article 8(2) of the Internal Agreement applicable to the 10th EDF².

¹ Article 57.3 of the 10th EDF FR: "*The Commission shall present a proposal by 15 June (...), containing: (...) a revised annual amount of the contribution for the year $n + 1$ in line with actual needs, in case where, in accordance with Article 7(3) of the Internal Agreement, the annual amount deviate from actual needs.*"

² OJ L 247, 9.9.2006, p. 32, and the Council decision of 16 July 2007 modifying the Internal Agreement to include Bulgaria and Romania: OJ L 202, 3.8.2007, p.35.