



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 6 August 2012**

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**NOTE**

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from: Presidency  
to: Working Party on Financial Agricultural Questions (AGRIFIN)  
Subject: Special report No 7/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled  
'The reform of the common organisation of the market in wine: Progress to date'  
- *Draft Council conclusions*

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Delegations will find attached draft Council conclusions on the special report No 7/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled 'The reform of the common organisation of the market in wine: Progress to date', prepared by the Presidency in the light of the discussions at the Working Party on 23 July 2012.

**DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS**  
**on Special Report No 7/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled**  
**‘The reform of the common organisation of the market in wine: Progress to date’**

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- (1) WELCOMES Special Report No 7/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled ‘The reform of the common organisation of the market in wine: Progress to date’;
- (2) RECALLS that the key objective of the wine reform is to enhance the competitiveness of European Union wine producers, and NOTES that the grubbing-up scheme and the restructuring and conversion measures should be examined in the context of the entire reform package of 11 complementing measures;
- (3) NOTES that the grubbing-up scheme has resulted in a significant reduction of supply in line with the aim of reducing the structural surplus, and INVITES the Commission to examine the need for alternative measures to increase the competitiveness of EU vine growers;
- (4) IS PLEASED that the restructuring and conversion scheme has had a positive impact at the level of vine growers and has contributed to the improvement of vine management techniques;
- (5) STRESSES the need to evaluate the impact of the reform on the levels of supply and demand in the wine sector and determine if structural market imbalances persist. LOOKS FORWARD to the Commission report to Council and European Parliament in 2012 on the situation of the wine market;