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THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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14182/12

CRS/CRP 32

SUMMARY RECORD

**Subject : 2422nd meeting of the PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE
held in Brussels on 26 and 28 September 2012**

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1. Adoption of the provisional agenda and "I" items

doc. 14107/1/12 REV 1 OJ/CRP1 32
14116/1/12 REV 1 OJ/CRP2 32

The above-mentioned agendas are approved with the following changes:

The following item is **withdrawn**:

(Coreper Part 2, under I)

46. African Peace Facility (APF) - Endorsement of African Union requests

13933/12 ACP 176 FIN 664 PTOM 41 COAFR 279 PESC 1124
RELEX 827 ONU 115

The following CRP1 agenda item (31) is **transferred** from Part II to 'Any other business' and should read as follows :

- **Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate an international agreement within the World Intellectual Property Organization on improved access to books for print impaired persons**
 - **Information from the Commission**
 - 11180/12 PI 73 RESTREINT UE
 - 13930/12 PI 108 RESTREINT UE

The Committee approved the "I" items as set out in the summary. Details are contained in the document quoted under item 1.

Coreper Part 1

II

24. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on food intended for infants and young children and on food for special medical purposes (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)**
- **Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the informal trilogue**

The Committee was debriefed on the outcome of the trilogue of 19 September 2012.

The trilogue took place in a positive atmosphere and mainly could be described as an explanatory meeting where the three institutions involved tried to mutually clarify the respective positions.

The main issues discussed were the Union list, the reports on the milk based drinks and the sportsmen foods, the foods for low-birth-weight or pre-term-infants, the total diet replacement for weight control, small and medium enterprises, innovation and gluten-free foods.

25. **Preparation for the Council meeting (Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs) on 4 October 2012**
1. **Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical agents (electromagnetic fields) (XXth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC) (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)**
 - **(poss.) General approach/ Progress report**
11951/11 SOC 598 CODEC 1075
+ COR 1
13773/12 SOC 743 CODEC 2136

While a number of delegations lifted their scrutiny reservations, DE and MT maintained their reservations for the time being.

The Committee confirmed the agreement on the general approach and agreed to submit the text as set out in document 13773/12 COR 1 (as revised by the Committee) to the Council (EPSCO) on 4 October 2012.

While supporting the Presidency proposal, BG, AT and PT reiterated their view that the exposure of workers exceeding the exposure limit values should be limited in duration also in the MRI sector, similarly to the general derogation, in order to guarantee equal treatment of employees in different sectors. BG expressed its hope that the text resulting from the negotiations with the European Parliament would aim at ensuring equal protection of workers in all sectors.

In the spirit of compromise LV supported the general approach, but reiterated that the scope of the general derogation was too wide and could thus lead to different situations in different Member States.

2. Proposals for Council Decisions on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Stabilisation and/or Association Council/the Cooperation Committee established by each of the respective agreements between the European Communities and Turkey, Montenegro, Albania and the Republic of San Marino, with regard to the adoption of the provisions on the coordination of social security systems (*Legislative deliberation*)

- **Political agreements**
 - 8553/12 SOC 260 ALB 1 COWEB 51
 - 8554/12 SOC 261
 - + COR 1
 - 8555/12 SOC 262 SM 4 EEE 30
 - 8556/12 SOC 263 NT 8
 - 13441/12 SOC 716 ALB 5 COWEB 131
 - + COR 1
 - 13442/12 SOC 717 ME 6 COWEB 132
 - + COR 1
 - 13443/12 SOC 718 SM 14 EEE 104
 - + COR 1
 - 13444/12 SOC 719 NT 25
 - + ADD 1
 - + ADD 2

The Committee

- recommended to the Council to reach political agreement on the four proposals for Council Decisions;
- approved the draft Council Minutes Statement on Turkey;
- took note of the Joint IE-UK Statement to the Council Minutes and other Member States Statements, which they might enter to the Council Minutes; and
- requested the remaining Member States to lift their reservations before or at the Council meeting on 4 October 2012.

3. **Europe 2020 Strategy and the new European Governance (*Non-legislative activity*) (Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure [proposed by the Presidency])**
- (a) **Evaluation of the second European Semester and thematic surveillance in employment and social policies**
- **Policy debate**
13684/12 SOC 735 ECOFIN 771 EDUC 258

 - **Endorsement of the contributions of the**
= **Employment Committee**
13685/12 SOC 736 ECOFIN 772 EDUC 259
= **Social Protection Committee**
13722/12 SOC 739 ECOFIN 774 EDUC 263
- (b) **Principles of well-functioning Labour Markets**
- **Endorsement of EMCO proposal**
13686/12 SOC 737 ECOFIN 773 EDUC 260
- (c) **Social Protection Performance Monitor (SPPM)**
- **Endorsement of the SPPM main features, prepared by SPC**
13723/12 SOC 740 ECOFIN 775 EDUC 264

The Committee recommended to the Council:

- to have a policy debate on the basis of the submitted documents and the Presidency background note 13684/12;
- to endorse the EMCO and SPC contributions on the evaluation of the second European Semester and thematic surveillance in employment and social policies, as set out in documents 13685/12 and 13722/12;
- to welcome and take note of EMCO's draft proposal on the use of the Principles of well-functioning Labour Markets, as set out in document 13686/12;
- to endorse the main features of the Social Protection Performance Monitor (SPPM), prepared by the SPC and set out in document 13723/12.

26. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2003/17/EC by extending its period of application and by updating the names of a third country and of the authorities responsible for the approval and control of the production

- **Analysis of the compromise text with a view to agreement**
13871/12 AGRILEG 131

The Committee approved a compromise text and authorised the Chair of the Committee to sign a letter informing the European Parliament that the Council is ready to conclude a first reading agreement, should that Institution's Plenary adopt the same text.

27. Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2008/971/EC as regards the inclusion of forest reproductive material of the 'qualified' category within the scope of that Decision and the updating of the name of the authorities responsible for the approval and control of the production

- **Analysis of the compromise text with a view to agreement**
13872/12 AGRILEG 132 SEMENCES 6 FORETS 61

The Committee approved a compromise text and authorised the Chair of the Committee to sign a letter informing the European Parliament that the Council is ready to conclude a first reading agreement, should that Institution's Plenary adopt the same text.

29. Proposal for a Regulation (EU) No .../2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approval and market surveillance of two- or three-wheel vehicles and quadricycles (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- **Analysis of the compromise text with a view to agreement**
13925/12 ENT 219 ENV 713 CODEC 2171

The Committee approved the text annexed to document 13925/12 and agreed to send a letter to the European Parliament with a view to reaching a first reading agreement (Procedural decision according to Art. 19 (7) (k) of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

30. Proposal for a Regulation (EU) No .../... of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approval of agricultural or forestry vehicles (First reading) (Legislative deliberation)

- **Analysis of the compromise text with a view to agreement**
13928/12 MI 566 CODEC 2172 ENT 220 ENV 714 AGRI 598

The Committee approved the text annexed to document 13928/12 and agreed to send a letter to the European Parliament with a view to reaching a first reading agreement (Procedural decision according to Art. 19 (7) (k) of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

32. Preparation for the Council meeting "Competitiveness" (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space) on 10 and 11 October 2012

1. European Industrial Policy (*Non-legislative activity*)

- (a) **Communication from the Commission on Industrial Policy Communication update: A contribution to growth and economic recovery**
- (b) **Communication from the Commission on the Strategy for the sustainable competitiveness of the construction sector and its enterprises**
- (c) **Communication from the Commission on Cultural and creative sectors for creative growth in the EU**
 - **Presentation by the Commission**
 - **Exchange of views**
13186/12 IND 132 COMPET 528 MI 528 RECH 326 ENER 362 TRANS 269
13971/12 IND 145 COMPET 561 MI 568

The Committee took note of the questions proposed by the Presidency for the policy debate as set out in document 13971/12.

- (d) **Key enabling technologies and the European Innovation Partnership on Raw materials**
 - **Adoption of Council conclusions**
7247/12 COMPET 130 RECH 77 IND 48
12093/12 COMPET 480 RECH 310 IND 121 MI 465 FC 34 RC 17
13826/12 COMPET 554 RECH 339 IND 143 MI 560 FC 40 RC 26

The outcome of the proceedings of the Committee is set out in document 14040/1/12 REV 1.

2. **Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EC) 294/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) (First reading) (*Legislative deliberation*)**
 - **Partial general approach**
13962/12 RECH 342 COMPET 560 EDUC 268 CODEC 2176

The outcome of the proceedings of the Committee is set out in document 14021/12.

3. **European Research Area (ERA) (*Non-legislative activity*)**
 - (a) **Communication from the Commission on a reinforced European Research Area Partnership for Excellence and Growth**
 - (b) **Communication from the Commission : Towards better access to scientific information: Boosting the benefits of public investments in research**
 - (c) **Recommendation from the Commission on access to and preservation of scientific information**
 - **Presentation by the Commission**
 - **Policy debate**
12848/12 RECH 321 COMPET 519 MI 511 TELECOM 147
12847/12 RECH 320 TELECOM 146 COMPET 518
12846/12 RECH 319 TELECOM 145 COMPET 517
13983/12 RECH 343 COMPET 562

The Committee took note of the questions proposed by the Presidency for the policy debate as set out in document 13983/12.

Coreper Part 2

II

51. Follow-up to the EU-China Summit (Brussels, 20 September 2012)

The Committee was informed by the European External Action Service and the Commission on the outcome of the 15th EU-China Summit that took place on 20 September 2012 in Brussels.

The Summit focused on the following issues: the state of play and next steps for the EU-China Strategic Partnership in the context of the upcoming leadership change in China; the global economic situation and latest economic developments in the EU and China; trade and investment relations; human rights; global and regional issues including maritime security.

52. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (Foreign Affairs/Development) on 15 October 2012

EEAS informed on the draft agenda for the FAC and FAC/Development formation to take place in Luxembourg on 15 October 2012.

A dinner on the eve of the Council will be held with Russian FM Lavrov.

Southern Neighbourhood: focus on work to-date:

- Syria: Follow-up on the situation and discussions taking place at UNGA. The European Council of 18 October 2012 will include language on Syria in its conclusions.
- (poss.) Egypt: Following visit of President Morsi
- Libya: Information on the latest situation
- (poss.) MEPP: stock-take after UNGA
- Iran: Follow-up after UNGA
- Mali: Follow-up to UNGA discussions

Eastern Neighbourhood:

- Belarus: Discussion on post-election situation. EEAS noted that there is now agreement to roll-over the restrictive measures for a further year.
- (poss.) Georgia: Discussion on elections which are due to take place on 1 October 2012
- (poss.) Ukraine: Discussion might be more appropriate in November after Ukrainian elections

(poss.) EU-ASEM summit: Discussion in view of ASEM summit scheduled for 5-6 November 2012. The holding of this discussion is dependent on time.

DRC Great Lakes: Reflection is ongoing as to whether to include this item

Development formation agenda:

- Preparing post MDGs/2015 framework - Rio+20 follow-up: orientation debate
- EU support for sustainable Change in Transition Societies
- (poss.) The EU Approach to Resilience

53. Follow-up to the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 24 September 2012

The Committee took note of the proceedings of this Council meeting. Discussions were focused on the MFF on the basis of a revised Negotiating box.

54. Presentation of the agenda of the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 16 October 2012

Le Comité a pris acte de la liste des points susceptibles de figurer à l'ordre du jour provisoire de la session du Conseil Affaires générales du 16 octobre 2012.

55. Preparation of the Council meeting (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 9 October 2012

- **Other items in connection with the Council meeting**

The Committee reviewed the state of readiness of the agenda items listed.

- **Any other business**

- (a) **Annual Growth Survey**
 - = **Information from the Presidency**

Presidency informed the Committee on the dates of the bilaterals between the Commission and the Member States on the European semester. Discussions will be focused on the progress on Country-specific recommendations 2012 and Member States' views on economic priorities in view of the European semester.

(b) Aviation/ETS
= Information from the Commission

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Commission regarding the application of the EU's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) to international aviation, in particular about the recent discussions with the US administration concerning this issue.

(c) Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate an international agreement within the World Intellectual Property Organization on improved access to books for print impaired persons

- **Information from the Commission**
11180/12 PI 73 RESTREINT UE
13930/12 PI 108 RESTREINT UE

The Committee took note of an oral report by the Commission highlighting the political context in which the ongoing negotiations in Geneva concerning the above-mentioned subject are taking place. The Committee noted the urgency of agreeing on an EU/Member States' position and agreed to revert to this issue at a future meeting.

(d) Opening trilogue on the external financing instruments under Heading 4 of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020
- Debriefing

The Committee was informed about the Opening trilogue on the external financing instruments under Heading 4 of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 that was held on 25 September 2012.

