



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 30 October 2012

**15691/12
ADD 1**

POLGEN 184

COVER NOTE

from: Secretary-General of the European Commission,
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 25 October 2012

to: Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European
Union

No Cion doc.: COM(2012) 629 final Vol. 2/2

Subject: Annex to the Communication from the Commission to the European
Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the
Committee of the Regions - Commission Work Programme 2013

Delegations will find attached the Commission document COM(2012) 629 final Vol. 2/2.

Encl.: COM(2012) 629 final Vol. 2/2



Strasbourg, 23.10.2012
COM(2012) 629 final

Vol. 2/2

ANNEX

to the

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

Commission Work Programme 2013

Annex I – Forthcoming initiatives¹

Forthcoming initiatives 2013 – 2014

*indicates that the Commission commits to deliver this initiative in the course of 2013

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
Towards genuine economic and monetary union			
1.	Annual Growth Survey*	Non-legislative	The Commission will present an Annual Growth Survey accompanied by a Communication which will be the main input for discussions at the Spring European Council. The survey will include both a review, reporting on progress, and a forward-looking part proposing strategic policy guidance horizontally across Member States. (Q4 2013)
2.	Addressing systemic risks related to shadow banking *	Legislative	Following the Green Paper of March 2012 and the international work coordinated by the FSB, the Commission will address the systemic problems related to shadow banking entities and practices e.g. money market funds, securitisation and activities such as securities lending and repurchase agreements performed by all types of financial entities. (Q3 2013)
3.	Common framework for the production of indices and benchmarks, in particular their governance and calculation	Legislative	The overall objective is to enhance the integrity of the production and use of benchmarks and indices which will enhance market confidence and efficiency and improve investor protection.
4.	Review of the European System of Financial Supervision	Legislative / Non-legislative	The regulations establishing the EFSF (the three European Supervisory Authorities and the Systemic Risk Board) require that the Commission carried out an in-depth review in 2013, in view of making proposals for changes.
5.	Providing long-term finance through actions to ensure the effectiveness of financial institutions, markets and instruments	Legislative	Following the Green Paper to be adopted by the Commission at the end of the year, and the ensuing debate, the Commission will propose policy actions to improve the conditions for long term finance in Europe. Some of the actions may be included in other proposals (like UCITS VI)

¹ Roadmaps on the individual initiatives can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/governance/impact/planned_ia/roadmaps_2013_en.htm

² The type of initiative might change following the outcome of the impact assessment process.

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
6.	Common Strategic Framework Funds and EU economic governance	Non-legislative	The Communication will analyse how the CSF Funds will contribute to EU economic governance, their role in fostering growth and the importance of a sound macroeconomic framework for the efficient use of the funds. It will examine the links of CSF Funds with the economic governance procedures and explain how macroeconomic conditionality will be implemented.
7.	Country-specific negotiation mandates for the Common Strategic Framework Funds for the period 2014-2020	Non-legislative	In view of the adoption of the partnership agreements, these documents will shape the priorities in Member States for public investment during the next seven years.
8.	Reforming the framework for collective investment funds/UCITS VI (focus on long-term investments, product rules and depositaries)	Legislative	Recent international work on shadow banking has identified certain shortcomings in the field of investment funds that require closer scrutiny (for instance, money market funds and the use of securities lending or sale-and-repurchase arrangements (repos)). This initiative will address a number of concerns relating to systemic risks, the efficiency, competitiveness and integration of the market for UCITS funds in order to preserve the UCITS attractiveness. This will contribute to preserving financial stability and fostering a culture of long-term investment in Europe, thus underpinning growth and jobs.
Boosting competitiveness			
9.	State aid Modernisation: General block exemption Regulation (800/2008)*	Legislative	The GBER set the most appropriate conditions for State aid, exempted from the notification requirement, to be compatible with the internal market. This will reduce administrative burden for national authorities. (Q4 2013)
10.	State aid modernisation in key sectors	Non-legislative	Reviews of the compatibility criteria included in the following guidelines for aid to Research & Development & Innovation; for aid to risk capital, for regional aid, for environmental aid, for industrial Rescue and Restructuring aid; and for aid to airports and airlines. These revisions aim at supporting the EU's strategy for economic growth, at giving a better focus to the Commission's enforcement work, and at taking Commission decisions quicker.
11.	Review of the Technology Transfer Block exemption Regulation and its Guidelines	Non-legislative	The objective is to improve framework conditions for licensing of technology for production thereby stimulating innovation and growth while ensuring effective competition.
12.	Energy Technologies and Innovation in a future European Energy Policy	Non-legislative	To foster energy technologies development according to the energy roadmap 2050, to promote energy research, demonstration and market deployment actions at EU level and to remove market, regulatory and behavioural barriers to the market deployment of energy innovation (via the Intelligent Energy Europe III programme).

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
13.	Reforming the internal market for industrial products*	Legislative / Non-legislative	The objective is to enhance the quality and efficiency of the internal market legislation for industrial products. This initiative will address the elimination of remaining trade barriers, in particular for products with high-growth potential, ensure more consistency in the application of the legislation, and simplify its management and implementation. (Q3 2013)
14.	Review of standardisation acquis	Legislative/ Non-legislative	The initiative will consist of two parts: 1) An initiative to establish strategic priorities and specific mandates to support EU policy for international competitiveness, innovation, digital interoperability and technological development. 2) An independent review will be launched in 2013 to assess progress against strategic objectives and evaluate the performance of the current governance in the European standardisation system.
15.	Initiative on E-invoicing in the field of public procurement*	Legislative	This initiative would eliminate the fragmentation of the Internal Market by promoting the use of B2G e-invoicing in the public sector and enhancing the interoperability of national e-invoicing systems. It would help to reduce the operating costs of enterprises and the procurement costs of public authorities by fostering the automation of procedures related to invoicing.(Q2 2013)
16.	A Comprehensive Strategy for the Defence Sector	Non-legislative	The Strategy will set out options to foster the competitiveness and the efficiency of the European defence sector through a consistent and integrated use of EU policies that have an impact on defence.
17.	Proposals for reinforced partnering in research and innovation under Horizon 2020*	Legislative	Leveraging investment and pooling efforts in key industrial sectors and in global development assistance through the renewal and creation of Public-Private Partnerships. These partnerships will leverage substantial private investment in key industrial sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, energy, transport, aeronautics, electronics, air traffic management and bio-based products. The initiative also includes Public-Public Partnerships for the joint implementation of national research programmes, to underpin industrial competitiveness by supporting R&D-performing SMEs, cutting-edge metrology, and ICT-based products and services for the elderly. Another will fight against poverty-related diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa. (Q3 2013)
18.	Making business easier through a standard VAT declaration*	Legislative	The aim is to make a standardised VAT declaration available in all EU languages and optional for businesses across the EU. The standard VAT declaration forms a key action point of the strategy for the future of VAT and of the Better Regulation Agenda, as it will help reducing burdens on business and enhance the digital single market. (Q3 2013)

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
19.	Making the VAT system more efficient through a review of the rates structures	Legislative	The aim is to readjust the scope of the reduced rates in order to increase the efficiency of the VAT system
20.	Access for regulated professions	Non-legislative	Take stock of recent developments in Member States in the area of regulated professions and to devise a methodology for facilitating the mutual evaluation exercise foreseen in the proposal modernising the Professional Qualifications Directive. The mutual evaluation foreseen in the proposal will focus on restrictions (qualifications and reserved activities).
21.	Fighting misappropriation of trade secrets	Legislative/non-legislative	This initiative aims at providing effective protection against trade secret theft which can act as a significant disincentive for innovative companies who rely on trade secrets to expand their businesses through licensing deals with partners, notably given the protection existing in other jurisdictions harmonising existing rules on protection of trade secrets.
22.	Bank account initiative*	Non-legislative /Legislative	An initiative aiming at increasing the transparency and comparability of bank account fees, as well as to render bank account switching easier for consumers. (Q1 2013)
Building tomorrow's networks today			
23.	Reducing the costs of broadband infrastructure deployment*	Legislative	The draft regulation aims to substantially reduce the cost of deploying high-speed broadband networks across the EU. This would incentivise investment in line with Digital Agenda high speed internet targets. The Regulation would mainly set out rights and obligations directly applicable to telecom operators and other utilities. (Q1 2013)
24.	Action Plan on Wireless Communications for a Connected Europe	Non-legislative	The aim of the Communication is to lay down a policy action plan meeting the challenges the EU is facing in the next few years with regard to dynamic market developments and exponential traffic growth in wireless services. Policy objectives include accelerating the roll-out of wireless broadband networks, fostering shared spectrum use, exploitation of EU R&D results on wireless communications and enhancing global spectrum harmonisation.
25.	Follow up to Green Paper: Towards an integrated European market for card, internet and mobile payments*	Legislative	While card, internet and mobile payments are the retail payment methods with the highest growth potential, there is significant market fragmentation along national borders. The follow-up to the Green Paper addresses the main obstacles for market integration in these areas. (Q2 2013)

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
26.	Single European Sky package - Single Sky II plus	Legislative / Non-legislative	This package (Communication, SES Regulation, EASA Regulation) addresses a number of issues that were left unresolved during the SES development. These concern in particular the performance of air navigation service provision and the need to clarify the institutional landscape at EU level to ensure the roles and responsibilities of various organisations support each other, but do not overlap.
27.	A Blue Belt for a single market for maritime transport	Legislative / Non-legislative	To reduce the administrative burden for intra-EU maritime transport to a level that is comparable to that of other transport modes by avoiding multiple controls including customs. This will be supported by modern ICT technologies, which permit the reliable tracking of ships and cargo with a sufficient level of certainty when shipping operates within the Single Market.
28.	Framework on the future EU ports' policy including a legislative proposal	Legislative / Non-legislative	Enhancing the efficiency and overall quality of port services, addressing the obligations of Member States regarding the sound planning of ports and hinterland connections, transparency of public funding and port charges, and administrative simplification efforts in ports, and reviewing restrictions on the provision of services at ports.
29.	Internal Road Market - Access to the road haulage market and access to occupation of road transport operator	Legislative	The initiative will improve the economic and environmental efficiency of road freight transport by further lifting the restrictions to cabotage. It will create a more even playing field by including provisions to apply social rules of the host country in the case of long stay of drivers and provisions for a more uniform enforcement.
Growth for jobs: inclusion and excellence			
30.	Social Investment for Growth and Cohesion – including implementing the ESF 2014-2020	Non-legislative	Provide guidance on increasing efficiency, effectiveness, and adequacy of social protection systems; improving activating and enabling policies; social inclusion and adequate livelihoods. The Communication will contribute to implementing the Europe 2020 strategy/ European Semester, support the design of social investment in the NRPs and assist Member States in making best use of EU funds, ESF in particular.
31.	Integration of the Roma	Soft law	Commission Recommendation aimed at fostering implementation of National Roma Integration Strategies, based on the work of a Pilot Group of Member States representing a geographical balance and the diverse situations concerning Roma within the EU and identifying good practices and effective approaches to Roma Integration.
32.	Effective Institutions for Occupational Retirement Pensions	Legislative	A review of this Directive is required in view of the importance of ensuring that appropriate structures are in place to fund retirement.

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
33.	Internationalisation of Higher Education	Non-legislative	Europeans need to be prepared for an increasingly global, open and competitive labour market. European universities are subject to growing global competition to attract talent and exchange knowledge. The Communication will review the different policies and programmes that can support them in furthering their internationalisation efforts.
34.	Modernisation of Public Employment Services	Legislative	This package will cover all elements of the reform of EURES including the delivery of a European Employment Guarantee, and set up a formal European network of Public Employment Services, to help develop and implement a European Labour Mobility Action Plan for modernisation and strengthening of PES to help transitions on labour markets.
35.	European platform to fight undeclared work	Legislative	This draft decision establishes a European platform between labour inspectorates and other enforcement bodies. It aims for a more coherent approach by covering all the key areas influenced by undeclared work and supporting a more effective fight against undeclared work by way of improving cooperation, sharing best practice and identifying common principles.
Using Europe's resources to best effect			
36.	Review of EU political and legal framework for organic production	Legislative	The policy objectives of the current framework for organic production (Regulation 834/2007 and Communication COM(2004) 415) are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish a sustainable management system for agriculture and - produce high quality products and a high variety of products responding to consumers' demand for processes that do not harm the environment, health, or animal welfare. The review will verify whether they are still relevant and adapted to the future evolution of organic production.
37.	EU's Strategy on adaptation to climate change	Legislative / Non-legislative	To contribute effectively to a more climate-resilient Europe. This means enhancing the preparedness and capacity to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change of the EU, its Member States and regions.
38.	New climate & energy framework for the period up to 2030	Legislative / Non-legislative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To meet 80-95% GHG emission reduction objective in 2050 compared to 1990 - To foster long term competitiveness, security of supply and sustainability - To provide a long-term perspective for investments until 2030.
39.	Review of the Thematic Strategy on air pollution and associated legislation	Legislative	The initiative will assess the implementation and achievements of current air pollution and air quality policies and will include legislative proposals to revise the NEC Directive and other air quality legislation as appropriate in order to deliver enhanced protection from the impacts of air pollution for human health and the natural environment whilst contributing to Europe 2020.

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
40.	Review of Waste Policy and Legislation	Legislative	This initiative will review key targets in EU waste legislation (in line with the review clauses in the Waste Framework Directive, the Landfill Directive and the Packaging Directive) and carry out an ex-post evaluation of waste stream directives, including ways to enhance coherence between them.
41.	Environmental climate and energy assessment framework to enable safe and secure unconventional hydrocarbon extraction	Legislative/non-legislative	Against the background of existing EU legislation the initiative will examine options to ensure that opportunities to diversify energy supplies and improve competitiveness, including by production of unconventional gas, can be taken up. The framework would target a level playing field across the EU, clarity and predictability for both market operators and citizens including for exploration projects, full consideration of greenhouse gas emissions and management of climate and environmental risks in line with public expectations.
Building a safe and secure EU			
42.	Nuclear insurance and liability	Legislative	Improvement of victim compensation in case of nuclear accident and creation of an internal market/level playing field for investors.
43.	Initiative on firearms: reducing gun-crime in Europe	Non-legislative	Trafficked firearms are being used by criminal networks and lone criminals. Legally-held firearms are also used illegally. The aim of the Communication will be to present: the nature/scale of the problem and current action including external dimension; new/increased EU actions (e.g. increased role of Europol; funding); law enforcement policy orientations in view of the 2015 review of the Firearms Directive 91/477, including possibly a Directive on criminal sanctions based on Art. 83(1) TFEU.
44.	Framework for administrative measures for the freezing of funds, financial assets and economic gains of persons and entities suspected of terrorist activities inside the EU (Article 75 TFEU)	Legislative	The EU legal framework on the freezing of funds, financial assets and economic gains of persons and entities suspected of terrorist activities only covers terrorists who represent an international, global threat. However, no such framework currently exists for the realisation of the objectives of the area of freedom, security and justice. This initiative aims at using the new legal basis of the Lisbon Treaty to set up a coherent and effective legal framework for administrative measures for the freezing of funds, financial assets and economic gains of such persons and entities.
45.	Special safeguards in criminal procedures for Suspected or Accused Persons who are Vulnerable	Legislative	A directive to ensure that special attention is shown in criminal procedures throughout the EU to suspected or accused persons who cannot understand or follow the content or the meaning of the proceedings, owing, for example, to their age, mental or physical condition.

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
46.	Service in the Member States of judicial and extrajudicial documents in civil or commercial matters	Legislative	The revision of regulation 1393/2007 will pay special attention to the effectiveness of the transmitting and receiving agencies and focus on the practical application of the execution of a request for forwarding a request for service. It could include the establishment of common minimum standards.
47.	EU Citizenship Report 2013: Progress towards eliminating obstacles to EU citizens' rights*	Non-legislative	Report on progress made since the 2010 Citizenship Report and identify further actions towards completing the removal of obstacles to EU citizens' enjoyment of their rights under the Treaty. It will be one of the deliverables of the European Year of Citizens. (Q2 2013)
48.	Establishment of a European Public Prosecutor's office (EPPO) to protect the financial interests of the Union*	Legislative	This initiative intends to set out the framework and conditions for establishing the European Public Prosecutor's office to focus on the protection of the financial interests of the Union. It will be accompanied by proposals on the reform of Eurojust and on protection of the financial interests of the EU. (Q2 2013)
49.	Fighting money laundering	Legislative	As one of the 'Eurocrimes', money laundering is a criminal offence in all EU Member States. However, EU Member States do not have the same definition of money laundering and also apply different sanctions. Because this hinders cross-border investigations and police cooperation, there is a need to harmonise the offence of money laundering at EU level.
50.	Fighting cigarette smuggling	Non-legislative	This strategy would propose a comprehensive response at EU level to illicit trade in cigarettes, taking into account the losses caused to public revenue and its role as an outlet for organised crime. Better coordinated and more targeted action would include exchange of information, standard setting and international cooperation.
51.	Reviewing the Union's visa policy to facilitate life for legitimate travellers	Legislative / Non-legislative	Since its entry into force, the Community Code on Visas ('Visa Code') has streamlined the rules and conditions for issuing visas and enhanced the harmonised applications of those common rules. Building on an evaluation report on its implementation, the Commission intends to propose amendments to improve the Visa Code. This will ensure that the EU Visa policy fosters economic growth and cultural exchanges by facilitating the travel to the EU of legitimate travellers such as businessmen, tourists, students and young people while ensuring a high level of security of the EU.
52.	Animal medicines	Legislative	New framework for veterinary medicines and certain aspects of their use to establish a level playing field in the EU, and decrease administrative burden.
53.	Use of cloning technique for food production	Legislative/non-legislative	Follow up Commission's report on cloning of animals for food production, in the context of the good functioning of the internal market.

N°	Title	Type of initiative ²	Description of scope of objectives
Europe as a global actor			
54.	Preparing an EU position on the post - 2015 development agenda	Non-legislative	As part of a process to pursue a linked strategy for the MDGs, the follow-up to Rio+20 and the Sustainable Development Goals process, this Communication will pursue agreement on an ambitious post-2015 global development framework with a strong emphasis on shared responsibility and accountability.
55.	Preparing an EU position on the follow-up to Rio + 20 including the development of Sustainable Development Goals	Non-legislative	As part of a process to pursue a linked strategy for the MDGs, the follow-up to Rio+20 and the Sustainable Development Goals process, this Communication will set out the EU follow-up to Rio+20 including sustainable development goals.
56.	Enlargement package 2013	Non-legislative	The Commission has been invited by the Council to regularly report on the candidate countries and potential candidates. The Commission Strategy Paper allows the European Council to define main strategic orientations on enlargement at the end of each year.
57.	Negotiation directives for a comprehensive trade and investment agreement with the relevant partners	Negotiating directives	Assuming that the final report of the High Level Working Group on Growth and Jobs and the ongoing scoping exercises recommend the launch of negotiations of such agreements, the main policy objective will be to realize the untapped potential and to generate new economic opportunities, particularly in sectors that have the highest potential to create jobs and growth. It also aims to be a strong signal that the two largest economies in the world remain committed to open markets
58.	Comprehensive Approach to Crisis Management outside the EU	Non-legislative	The European Union more than any other international actor, has a unique array of tools at its disposal to promote the resolution of complex external crises. These tools need to be used coherently and in close cooperation with Member States addressing the whole crisis cycle, from crisis prevention to reconstruction.

Annex II: Simplification and Regulatory Burden Reduction Initiatives

N°	Title	Type of initiative	Simplification and regulatory burden reduction aspects of the initiative	Stakeholder benefitting from the simplification or regulatory reduction	Adoption date
Competition					
1.	Simplification of EU merger control	Non-legislative	Cutting red tape for merging companies by making merger notification easier and bringing more non-problematic merger cases under a simplified procedure.	Businesses involved in notification procedures with a view to receive Commission approval for a merger.	2013
Digital Agenda					
2.	Reducing the costs of broadband infrastructure deployment	Legislative	Proposal for an EP and Council Regulation to substantially reduce civil engineering costs as well as the costs caused by unnecessary administrative burden, thereby incentivising deployment.	The Regulation would include rights and obligations applicable to national and local authorities, as well as to telecom operators and other utilities (e.g. water, energy, railways).	2013
Health and Consumers					
3.	New Regulation on Official Controls	Legislative	The aim of the proposal is to simplify and streamline the existing legal framework, in order to improve the efficiency of official controls performed by the Member States along the food chain while minimising burden for operators. A more efficient use of control resources will contribute to preventing crisis, whilst limiting the costs thereof for compliant economic operators and ensuring a level-playing field.	All operators concerned by controls along the food chain.	2013

N°	Title	Type of initiative	Simplification and regulatory burden reduction aspects of the initiative	Stakeholder benefitting from the simplification or regulatory reduction	Adoption date
4.	New Regulation on Plant Reproductive Materials	Legislative	The initiative aims to foster innovation and seeks to reduce overall administrative burden and introduce flexibility within the regulatory framework with a view to globalisation, specialisation and development of new uses of agricultural commodities, together with changes in the societal expectations on the interplay of agriculture and the natural environment. It will modernise and simplify the legislation by replacing 12 Directives on seed and plant propagating material with one single act.	Micro-enterprises subject to rules related to plant reproductive materials.	2013
5.	New Regulation on plant health	Legislative	The exemption for small operators selling plant material exclusively on the local market will remain.	SME selling plant material exclusively on the local market.	2013
6.	New Regulation on Animal health	Legislative	A simpler framework (1 regulation replacing over 40 directives) and clearer responsibilities are easier understood and used by authorities and operators, less time and effort to study it and to comply with. Improved use of new electronic technologies and simplified requirements will bring potential for considerable savings, while the high safety standards that are necessary to ensure disease control and safe trade in animals and their products would be maintained.	European keepers of agricultural animals, companies trading live animals or animal products, national veterinary competent authorities	2013
7.	Revision of legislation on veterinary medicines	Legislative	Simplification of the regulatory environment pre and post marketing authorisation (incl. pharmacovigilance): - reduce the administrative burdens to businesses (with a particular focus on SMEs) clearly identified during public consultation and IA preparation, - increase availability of medicines (including for minor species) on the single market.	Veterinary pharmaceutical industry, (including SMEs), farmers and bee keepers, veterinary surgeons, national competent authorities, pet owners, consumers.	2013

N°	Title	Type of initiative	Simplification and regulatory burden reduction aspects of the initiative	Stakeholder benefitting from the simplification or regulatory reduction	Adoption date
8.	Hygiene package legislation (revision)	Legislative	As the principles and requirements of the Hygiene Package opened the European Union market for all food business operators, all national measures must be currently notified to the Commission and to the other Member States at the stage of the draft in order to inform them and give them the possibility to comment on the draft legislation which after adoption becomes applicable (Directive No 98/34/EC). In the revision of hygiene package it is foreseen to simplify the current notification rules which may result in a more frequent use by the Member States of the flexibility possibilities laid down in the Hygiene package legislation.	Member State competent authorities and food business operators.	2013
Home Affairs					
9.	Revision of the Schengen Borders Code (562/2006)	Legislative	Compilation of several amendments into one legal text, including that on the use of the Visa Information System and the 2011 amendments.	Member State authorities.	2013
10.	Reviewing the Union's visa policy to facilitate life for legitimate travellers	Legislative	Simplification expected from a more sophisticated approach which balances essential control at external borders with the need to facilitate life for legitimate travellers such as business people and tourists.	Travellers such as business people and tourists.	2014

N°	Title	Type of initiative	Simplification and regulatory burden reduction aspects of the initiative	Stakeholder benefitting from the simplification or regulatory reduction	Adoption date
Enterprise and Industry					
11.	Initiative (Commission Delegated Act) on the electronic processing of declarations of performance under the Construction Products Regulation (305/2011/EU)	Legislative	The electronic handling of performance declarations of construction products has been specifically foreseen in the new Construction Products Regulation (305/2011/EU; the CPR), which will come into effect on 1 July 2013. However, this has been dealt with by authorising the Commission to adopt delegated acts on this topic. The current lack of a legal base for these activities causes legal uncertainty and therefore creates an obstacle to the efficient and effective use of ICT for performance declarations.	Industry, in particular manufacturers of construction products, strongly supported a corresponding provision in the original Commission proposal for the new Regulation. For the industry, the electronic handling of performance declarations is a key driver of economies, as has been demonstrated by the e-invoicing developments. The initiative will provide legal certainty. The distributors and the users will profit from the speedy electronic provision of information on construction products.	2013
12.	Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 340/2008 on the fees and charges payable to the European Chemicals Agency pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH) Subject to the 2012 REACH review	Legislative	The draft amending Regulation follows on the recommendations of the REACH review, in particular the recommendation to provide additional support to SMEs considering further rebalancing the distribution of fees across various company size classes. It rebalances the fees and charges in such a way that takes into account the costs of the Agency but provides further reductions for SMEs which have less capacity to absorb the costs of REACH compliance than large companies.	The rebalancing of the fees implies further reduction for SMEs: -35%, -65% and -95% in relation to standard fees for registration and -30%, -60% and -90% in relation to standard fees for authorisation activities as compared to the current situation: -30%, -60% and -90% for registration and -20%, -50% and -85% for authorisation. In order to provide enough resources for the Agency to operate, this reduction in the fees and charges for SMEs needs to be compensated with an increase of the standard fees and charges charged to large companies.	2013

N°	Title	Type of initiative	Simplification and regulatory burden reduction aspects of the initiative	Stakeholder benefitting from the simplification or regulatory reduction	Adoption date
13.	Review of all existing Commission regulations, implementing Council regulation (EC) No 1216/2009 (trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products)	Legislative	The proposal is to align the existing implementing Commission acts based on Council Regulation (EC) No 1216/2009 to the Lisbon Treaty.	The exercise will benefit all stakeholders eg importers and exporters of processed agricultural products and the competent authorities in the Member States (Customs, paying agencies, Agriculture/economic affairs Ministries). The alignment will result in clearer rules for importers and exporters and will therefore lower their transaction costs.	2013
14.	Reforming the internal market for industrial products	Legislative	The aims of the proposal are, among others, to address the shortcoming, bottlenecks and outdated requirements of the existing EU industrial products legislation in order to further strengthen and simplify the regulatory framework.	Businesses in industrial sectors and closely linked service sectors.	2013
Internal Market and Services					
15.	Initiative on E-invoicing in the field of public procurement	Legislative / Non-legislative	Reduce time and costs associated with invoicing in the field of public procurement for businesses.	Businesses interested to participate in public procurement.	2013
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries					
16.	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council for the conservation of fishery resources through technical measures for the protection of marine organisms	Legislative	The main relevant problem that this initiative will address is to reduce the complexity of the existing technical measures legislation. This initiative aims to simplify the current technical measures regulations through the development of a framework regulation with specific rules developed regionally.	Catching sector and national administrations. It is anticipated that this simplification will reduce the costs for national administrations for control and enforcement.	2014

N°	Title	Type of initiative	Simplification and regulatory burden reduction aspects of the initiative	Stakeholder benefitting from the simplification or regulatory reduction	Adoption date
Taxation and Customs Union					
17.	Making business easier through a standard VAT declaration	Legislative / Non-legislative	<p>The Commission will propose that a standardised VAT declaration should be available in all languages and optional for businesses across the EU.</p> <p>With the help of the Member States, the Commission will set up an EU VAT web portal.</p>	Businesses involved in cross-border trade.	2013
Transport					
18.	A Blue Belt for a single market for maritime transport	Legislative / Non-legislative	To reduce the administrative burden for intra-EU maritime transport to a level that is comparable to that of other transport modes by avoiding multiple controls.	Businesses involved in shipping trade.	2013

Annex III: List of withdrawals of pending proposals³

N°	COM/SEC/Inter-institutional reference	Title	Justification for withdrawal	Reference of the Commission proposal in OJ
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion				
1.	COM(1983)13	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) implementing within the European Economic Community Decision No 3/80 of the EEC - Turkey Association Council on the application of the Social Security Schemes of the Member States of the European Communities to Turkish workers and members of their families.	Obsolete. Replaced by Proposal COM(2012) 152, Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Association Council set up by the Agreement establishing an association between the EEC and Turkey with regard to the provisions on the coordination of social security systems 2012/0076 (NLE).	OJ C 110, 25. 4. 83, p.1.
European External Action Service				
2.	COM(2012)43 2012/0009/NLE	Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken by the European Union in the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Annex XIII (Transport Road).	The Commission has changed position on this subject.	OJ C 102, 5.4.2012, p.25.
Enlargement				
3.	COM(84)306	Projet de décision du Conseil de coopération CEE-Yougoslavie concernant la mise en œuvre des dispositions de l'accord de coopération CEE-Yougoslavie, du 1er avril 1983, relatives à la coopération dans le domaine de la Sécurité sociale.	Obsolete. Provisions on the coordination of social security systems have been included in the Stabilisation and Association Agreements signed with most of the countries successors to the former State. Proposals concerning Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was adopted by the Council in October 2010 (OJ L306, 23.11.2010). Proposals regarding Albania and Montenegro are under discussion.	-

³ The withdrawals will take effect on the date of the publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

N°	COM/SEC/Inter-institutional reference	Title	Justification for withdrawal	Reference of the Commission proposal in OJ
Enterprise and Industry				
4.	COM(2010) 280 2010/0168/NLE	Proposal for a Council Decision on the compulsory application of Regulation No 100 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for the approval of motor vehicles with regard to electric safety.	Obsolete. Replaced together with COM(2010)310 by new proposal adopted as Commission Regulation (EU) No 407/2011 of 27 April 2011 amending Regulation (EC) No 661/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council.	OJ C 121, 19.4.11, p.12.
5.	COM(2010) 310 2010/0169/NLE	Proposal for a Council Decision of on the compulsory application of Regulations No 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 13 H, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 28, 31, 34, 37, 38, 39, 43, 44, 46, 48, 55, 58, 61, 66, 67, 73, 77, 79, 80, 87, 89, 90, 91, 93, 94, 95, 97, 98, 99, 102, 105, 107, 110, 112, 116, 118, 121, 122, 123 and 125 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for the type-approval of motor vehicles, their trailers and systems, components and separate technical units intended therefore.	Obsolete. Replaced together with COM(2010)280 by new proposal adopted as Commission Regulation (EU) No 407/2011 of 27 April 2011 amending Regulation (EC) No 661/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council.	OJ C 121, 19.4.11, p.14.
Home Affairs				
6.	COM(2009)701 2009/0186/NLE	Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and Australia on the processing and transfer of European Union-sourced passenger name record (PNR) data by air carriers to the Australian Customs Service.	Obsolete. Replaced by COM(2011)281, Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Australia on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data by air carriers to the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service which has been adopted on 13 12 2011.	OJ C 88, 19.03.11, p.7.
7.	COM(2009)702 2009/0187/NLE	Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data by air carriers to the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) (2007 PNR agreement).	Obsolete. Replaced by COM(2011)807, Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the United States of America and the European Union on the use and transfer of Passenger Name Records to the United States Department of Homeland Security. The Decision was adopted by the council on 26 April 2012 (2011/0382/NLE). The EU-US PNR agreement with US entered into force on 1 July 2012.	OJ C 88, 19.03.11, p.7.

N°	COM/SEC/Inter-institutional reference	Title	Justification for withdrawal	Reference of the Commission proposal in OJ
Justice				
8.	COM(2006)399 2006/0135/CNS	Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2201/2003 as regards jurisdiction and introducing rules concerning applicable law in matrimonial matters.	Obsolete. Replaced by new proposal COM(2010)105 adopted as Council Regulation (EU) No 1259/2010 implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of the law applicable to divorce and legal separation in 14 Member States.	-
9.	COM(2010)708 2010/0347/APP	Proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision (2008/203/EC) of 28 February 2008 implementing Regulation (EC) No 168/2007 as regards the adoption of a Multi-annual Framework for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for 2007-2012.	Obsolete. Intended to amend the current MAF Decision which expires at the end of 2012. It did not reach the required unanimity in the Council and it was replaced by COM (2011)880, Proposal for a Council Decision establishing a Multiannual Framework for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for 2013-2017 which is expected to be adopted by the end of 2012.	OJ C 121, 19.04.11, p.35.
10.	COM(2002)520	Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing by the European Community of the Council of Europe Convention on contact concerning children.	Discussions in Council have shown that the requirement of unanimity cannot be reached.	OJ C 20-E, 28.01.2003, p.369.
European Anti-Fraud Office				
11.	COM(2001)272 amended by COM(2002) 577 2001/0115/COD	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the criminal law protection of the Community's financial interests.	Obsolete. Replaced by COM(2012)363, Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law.	OJ C 240-E, 28.08.2001, p.125 and OJ C 71-E 25.03.2003, p.1.
Taxation and Customs Union				
12.	COM(2003)234 amended by COM (2004) 468 2003/0091/CNS	Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 77/388/EEC as regards value added tax on services provided in the postal sector.	Discussions in Council on this proposal have not progressed since 2010. Given the position of the Council, the Commission has the intention to review this issue in the context of a future reflection on all exemptions in the public interest (follow up to VAT Communication, COM(2012) 851).	OJ C 76 25.03 2004, p.16.

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Trade				
13.	COM(2005)661 2005/0254/COD	Proposal for a Council Regulation on the indication of the country of origin of certain products imported from third countries.	In addition to lack of agreement in the Council, recent developments in the legal interpretation of WTO rules by the organization's Appellate Body have rendered this proposal outdated.	OJ C 49, 28.2.2006, p.53.
Codifications				
14.	COM(2009)546 2009/0154 (COD)	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the radio interference (electromagnetic compatibility) of vehicles (codified version).	The act whose codification was proposed will be repealed with effect as from 1 November 2014.	OJ C 88, 19 03 2011, p.2.