



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 16 November 2012**

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**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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from : General Secretariat  
to : Coreper/ Council

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No. prev. doc.: 14974/12 and 14974/12 ADD 1

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Subject : Report from the Commission to the Council  
Summary of the European Archives Group report  
"Archives in Europe Facing the challenges of the digital era - 2nd Progress Report  
to the Council "

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1. In September 2012 the European Archives Group (EAG) adopted its second progress report (docs 14974/12 and 14974/12 ADD 1), which addresses challenges for archives in the digital era. The report focuses in particular on the changing role of archives, the question of online versus on-site access to digital archives, the relationship between archives and the Directive on the Reuse of Public Sector Information<sup>1</sup>, digitisation, and costs and funding.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 345, 31.12.2003, p. 90

2. It is recalled that the EAG was established in response to Council Recommendation 2005/835/EC on priority actions to increase cooperation in the field of archives in Europe.<sup>2</sup> It comprises archival experts designated by the Member States and the EU institutions to ensure cooperation and coordination on general matters relating to archives. As requested in the Council Recommendation, the EAG submitted a first progress report to the Council in 2008 on the implementation of the Recommendation.<sup>3</sup> The Council (Education, Youth and Culture) took note of this report at its 2905th meeting on 20/21 November 2008.
  3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly asked to suggest that the Education, Youth and Culture Council, at its next meeting of 26/27 November 2012, takes note of the second progress report, as an "A" item.
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<sup>2</sup> OJ L 312, 29.11.2005, p.55

<sup>3</sup> Docs 12580/08 and 12580/08 ADD 1.