

**Council of the European Union** 



PRESS RELEASE ST 15602/14 PRESSE 587 Brussels, 17 November 2014

## Council agrees its position for the final round of budget conciliation talks

The Permanent Representatives Committee today<sup>1</sup> agreed its position on a package covering the 2015 EU budget and a number of draft amending budgets for 2014 aimed notably at meeting outstanding bills.

With its position the Council recognises the unprecedented scale of outstanding payments and agrees to the use of the flexibility instruments provided for by the regulation on the multiannual financial framework 2014-2020 to address this exceptional situation. The Council's position also seeks to put the development of commitments and payments on a more sustainable path to avoid similar situations in the future.

This package agreement constitutes the negotiation position of the Council for the meeting of the Conciliation Committee starting on Monday 17 November at 17.00. The three-week conciliation period expires at 24.00 the same day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Permanent Representatives Committee is composed of the ambassadors of the 28 EU member states. Its role is to prepare decisions of the Council.