



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Council (EPSCO)

No. Cion prop.: 11474/13 SOC 534 MI 579 CODEC 1581 - COM(2013) 430 final

Subject: Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on enhanced co-operation between Public Employment Services (PES)

Following the Coreper meeting on 27 November, delegations will find attached the statement by the Council and Member States on the above subject as approved by the Committee with a view to the EPSCO Council on 9 December.

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND BY THE MEMBER
STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
ON
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NETWORK FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (PES)

The Council of the European Union:

1. WELCOMES the Commission's proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and the Council on enhanced co-operation between PES as an additional tool that can positively contribute to the wider on-going efforts to make existing structures more effective in tackling unemployment;
2. UNDERSCORES the pertinence of strengthening the cooperation between the PES via a formalisation of the current European Network of Heads of PES (HoPES);
3. RECALLS that Article 149 TFEU provides that the European Parliament and the Council may adopt incentive measures designed to encourage cooperation between Member States;
4. RECOGNISES that the real added value of the Network resides in the participation of all Member States, thus enabling the development and implementation of benchmarking systems and mutual learning activities with a view to developing an appropriate benchlearning process.

The Member States of the European Union, in the light of the above, hereby declare that they are committed to the establishment of such a Network, and that, in order to allow for it to function effectively and to provide real added value, they express their intention to take part in such a Network.