



Brussels, 26 June 2015  
(OR. en)

9753/15

CES 22  
INST 196  
AG 20

**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	7359/15 CES 17 INST 82 AG 9
Subject:	Council Decision determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee - Adoption

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1. Pursuant to Article 301 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) the number of members of the Economic and Social Committee shall not exceed 350. This number was temporarily increased by Article 23(1) of the Treaty of accession of Croatia to 353, until the current term of office of the Committee<sup>1</sup> comes to an end on 20 September 2015<sup>2</sup>. As from the new term of office the transitional increase ceases to apply and the number of members must be decreased by at least 3 seats, to a maximum of 350.
2. On 12 June 2014, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council decision determining the composition of the committee (10980/14). It suggests decreasing the number of members of the committee by reducing the number of members from Luxembourg, Cyprus and Estonia by one seat for each delegation. Unanimity is required to adopt the Council Decision.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 112, 24.4. 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Council Decision 2010/570/EU, Euratom.

3. The General Affairs Group met on 6 March 2015 and on 18 March 2015 and examined a Presidency compromise text (6665/15).
  4. At its meeting on 25 March 2015, COREPER discussed the composition of the Economic and Social Committee on the basis of a Presidency compromise text (7359/15).
  5. COREPER is asked to
    - confirm its agreement on the Presidency compromise text and
    - invite Council to adopt the text of the draft Decision on the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee set out in doc. 9754/15 CES 23 INST 197 AG 21, as finalised by the legal linguistic experts, at a forthcoming meeting.
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