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DÉCLASSIFICATION

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Objet: Recommandation de la Commission au Conseil en vue d'autoriser la Commission à entamer des négociations concernant la révision des statuts du Groupe international d'études du caoutchouc

Les délégations trouveront ci-joint la version déclassifiée du document cité en objet.

Le texte de ce document est identique à celui de la version précédente.

RESTREINT UE



CONSEIL DE
L'UNION EUROPÉENNE

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NOTE POINT "I/A"

du:	Groupe Produits de base
en date du:	15 juillet 2008
au:	Comité des représentants permanents/Conseil
n° prop. Cion:	11405/08 - SEC (2008) 2135 final
Objet:	Recommandation de la Commission au Conseil en vue d'autoriser la Commission à entamer des négociations concernant la révision des statuts du Groupe international d'études du caoutchouc

1. Le 1er juillet 2008, la Commission a transmis une recommandation de la Commission au Conseil visant à autoriser la Commission à ouvrir des négociations pour la révision de la Constitution du Groupe international d'études du caoutchouc.
2. Le Groupe "Produits de base" a examiné cette recommandation lors de sa réunion du 15 juillet 2008 et il est parvenu à un accord sur une version légèrement modifiée des directives de négociation proposées. L'accord intervenu se retrouve à l'annexe de ce document (RESTREINT UE).
3. Il est demandé au Comité des représentants permanents d'inviter le Conseil à adopter les directives de négociations, telles qu'elles figurent à l'annexe de ce document (RESTREINT UE).

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ANNEXE

RECOMMENDATION

The Commission recommends that:

- the Council authorises the Commission to negotiate on behalf of the European Community a revision of the Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the International Rubber Study Group;
- the Council appoints the Working Party on Commodities to assist it and to cooperate closely in this task;
- the Council issues the appended negotiating directives.

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Negotiating directives for the revision of the Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the International Rubber Study Group

The European Community's position in the negotiations will be based on the following considerations:

- (1) Necessary adjustments for the relocation to Singapore: The Constitution refers in a number of cases to London or the United Kingdom. It is obvious that these references need to be changed. The Community will agree with all these necessary adjustments.
- (2) Membership of the Community: In principle, the current Constitution does not allow members other than countries. Therefore, the Community will strive that in the new legal framework of the Group the membership of the Community or any other comparable organisation should be explicitly provided for.
- (3) Membership contributions: The Community will seek to decrease the share of the basic contributions and to proportionally increase share of the variable contributions, and to take the average of the sum of production and consumption for at least 3 calendar years as basis for determining the variable contribution.
- (4) Voting procedures: If the proposal concerning membership contributions is accepted then the Community will strive for a voting system which better reflects the difference in membership contributions and whereby any member should have the possibility to authorise any other member to represent its interests and to cast its votes.
- (5) Streamlining the number of committees and number of meetings: The Community strives for streamlining the number of committees and meetings of the Group and the terms of the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons.

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- (6) Rearrangement of the sequence of the provisions: The Community will seek to introduce a clearer distinction between the provisions of the Constitution and of the Rules of Procedure.
- (7) Insertion of provisions on legal personality of the Group, entry into force and termination of the Constitution: The Community will strive for the insertion of a provision regarding legal personality of the Group and for clear provisions on the entry into force and termination of the Constitution or legal framework of the Group.
- (8) Other technical changes regarding audit control, confidentiality of data, host countries for Group meetings, obligation to provide statistics, establishment of Industry Advisory Panel, voting by secret ballot: The Community will suggest a number of technical changes which are aimed at making the functioning of the Group more efficient and effective, and increase transparency.

Where appropriate, additional proposals could be made as work progresses.

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