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LIMITE

**POLGEN 72
INST 209**

'I' ITEM NOTE

From: Presidency
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject: Mandates of Council preparatory bodies
Approval

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In June 2019 the European Council approved a new strategic agenda for 2019-2024 wherein it is stated that "*each institution should revisit its working methods and reflect on the best way to fulfil its role under the Treaties.*"
2. This launched a reflection process at the level of the Permanent Representatives Committee in the second half of 2019.
3. As regards Council preparatory bodies, in September 2019, the Permanent Representatives Committee tasked the Antici and Mertens Groups to come up with an assessment and possible proposals for review. On this basis, an issues paper regarding Council preparatory bodies was to be presented by the Presidency. The outcome of these discussions was discussed in the Permanent Representatives Committee in December 2019.

4. Building on the work done by previous Presidencies, technical analysis provided by the GSC and extensive consultations, the Presidency prepared a list of the preparatory bodies (5754/2/21 REV 2).
5. In February 2021, the Permanent Representatives Committee approved, in accordance with Article 19(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, the above-mentioned list of the preparatory bodies and took note that the list should be applied as from 1 July 2021.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee tasked the Antici and Mertens Groups to coordinate the establishment of mandates of 23 new working groups.
7. In April 2021, the relevant working groups have been consulted on the proposed mandates. Subsequently, the Antici and Mertens Groups prepared the approval of the mandates by the Permanent Representatives Committee.
8. The approval of the mandate of the Working Party "E-justice" requires a consequential modification of the Council Decision 2009/908/EU laying down measures for the implementation of the European Council Decision on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council, and on the chairmanship of preparatory bodies of the Council. The text of the modification of that Council Decision is set out in the Annex II to this Note.

II. CONCLUSION

9. In light of above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:
 - approve the 23 mandates as set out in the Annex I to this note;
 - to confirm its agreement on and the transmission to the Council of the text of the Council Decision amending Council Decision 2009/908/EU laying down measures for the implementation of the European Council Decision on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council, and on the chairmanship of preparatory bodies of the Council, as set out in the Annex II to this note, subject to its revision by lawyers linguists.

Mandates of the following Working Parties

Trade Policy Committee

Code	A.4
Council configuration	<p>The Trade Policy Committee operates under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> General affairs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs <input type="checkbox"/> Economic and financial affairs¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Justice and home affairs² <input type="checkbox"/> Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs <input type="checkbox"/> Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³ <input type="checkbox"/> Transport, telecommunications and energy <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and fisheries <input type="checkbox"/> Environment <input type="checkbox"/> Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable)	<p>The Trade Policy Committee (TPC) has the following subgroups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full Members - Deputies - Experts Services and Investment - Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)
Policy areas	<p>The TPC is a Committee established by the Treaties and working under the authority of Coreper⁵. Its mandate is set out in Article 207(3) third subparagraph of the TFEU: "<i>The Commission shall conduct [...] negotiations [of tariff and trade agreements relating to trade in goods and services, and the commercial aspects of intellectual property, foreign direct investment] in consultation with a special committee appointed by the Council to assist the Commission in this task and within the framework of [negotiating] directives as the Council may issue to it. The Commission shall report regularly to the special committee and to the European Parliament on the progress of negotiations</i>".</p> <p>On this basis, the Committee advises and assists the Commission in negotiating agreements with third countries or in international</p>

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

organisations in the area of the common commercial policy as the primary responsible working party, without prejudice to the mandates of other working parties.

It also acts as one of the preparatory bodies in the decision-making process of the Council as regards EU trade policy. The Committee deals with trade policy matters in 3 main areas: 1) issues related to the World Trade Organization (WTO); 2) trade relations with one or more third countries and international organisations; and 3) any EU trade legislation as appropriate (without prejudice to the mandate of the Working Party on Trade Questions or other working parties). The Committee is the primary responsible working party to deal with the handling of trade disputes.

The subgroup on Services and Investment is:

- responsible for advice and assistance to the Commission in negotiating agreements with one or more third countries or international organisations in the fields of trade in services and investment;
- in charge of legislation regarding measures defining the framework for implementing the common commercial policy in the area of services and investment.

The GSP subgroup is responsible for:

- all issues and work related to the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP), their legislation and implementing measures;
- the Generalised Schemes of Preferences of other WTO Members and the WTO enabling clause.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following: (if applicable):

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

The TPC deals with both international trade agreements and negotiations, and legislative proposals under the ordinary legislative procedure defining the framework for implementing the common commercial policy.

- other Union legal acts:

The Commission conducts trade and investment negotiations in consultation with the TPC. The TPC is responsible for preparing the signature and conclusion of trade and investment agreements by the Council.

- external documents or instruments:

The TPC is also consulted during the negotiations and conclusion of agreements in international organisations such as the WTO or UNCITRAL. It also follows the trade aspects of organisations such as the

OECD and UNCTAD, as well as of the G7 and G20.

The GSP subgroup deals with the Generalised Scheme of Preferences of the EU, of other WTO Members and with the WTO enabling clause. It also follows issues in relation to the Generalised System of Preferences dealt with in the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA).

policy document(s):

Commission Communications on Trade & Investment and Council conclusions on Trade & Investment

other:

**Chairing
arrangement**

The Working Party is chaired by:

the six-monthly Presidency

a representative of the High Representative

other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 25/03/1957
- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The change of name from "Article 133 Committee" to the "Trade Policy Committee" was approved by Coreper in December 2009 (16864/09). The addition of Investment to the TPC Services and Investment was approved by Coreper in January 2010 (5662/10).
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
The Trade Policy Committee is closely linked with the Working Party on Trade Questions (C.27), given that both cover the common commercial policy. The Working Party on Trade Questions focuses on the legislative files and trade defence whereas the Trade Policy Committee deals with international negotiations and broader trade policy.

Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration (EMWP)

Code B.3

Council configuration The Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration (EMWP) operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups
(if applicable) n/a

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration is responsible for:

- Discussing measures aimed at developing/sustaining a comprehensive, tailor-made and mutually beneficial EU approach towards countries and regions of origin and transit of asylum-seekers and migrants, as well as third countries of reception of refugees, without geographical limitation;
- Based on an assessment of the migration situation and trends, providing guidance concerning possible initiatives and measures aimed at strengthening the external dimension of the EU asylum and migration policy and improving cooperation with third countries in the field of migration, in order to mobilise coherently and timely all European instruments, including financial instruments;
- Discussing ways to enhance coherence of Member States' and EU

1 Including budget

2 Including civil protection

3 Including tourism

4 Including Audio-visual affairs

5 In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

actions, including through EU and Member States' joint activities and facilitating information exchange to increase coordination between Member States;

- Discussing, assessing and providing guidance in the field of the EU's cooperation with third partners, with a view to taking concrete decisions on the way forward, in relation to:
 - The establishment of specific initiatives towards third countries and geographic regions, including inviting the Commission and the EEAS to propose new joint initiatives, including Action Plans, Partnerships, Dialogues, Strategies or Roadmaps. The EMWP will also monitor and assess such existing initiatives;
 - The establishment of EU positions and "lines to take" for existing dialogues on migration with third partners, including proposing concrete measures to improve the cooperation of third countries on matters of particular relevance for the EU's migration policy;
 - The setting of priorities for the EU's engagement in joint initiatives under regional dialogues or in international organisations, including non-legally binding instruments, as well as the subsequent follow-up of the outcomes of such initiatives;
 - The regular preparation of specific initiatives towards third countries, including official visits, by the Commission, EEAS and EU agencies. The EMWP may invite the Commission, EEAS and EU agencies to take certain measures as follow-up;
 - The setting of strategic priorities of the EU's financial instruments in the areas relevant for the external asylum and migration policy. The regular discussion and information on existing financial instruments to implement the relevant dialogues with third partners. The EMWP may be called upon to also discuss and propose solutions to financial gaps.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
- other Union legal acts:
- external documents or instruments:
 - Documents of migration dialogue processes with third countries, to be validated by Coreper/Council;
 - Migration related documents of international organisations.

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- policy document(s):
 - Council conclusions;
 - Commission/EEAS communications, action plans, strategies;
 - Lines to take and framework documents.
 - other:
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**Chairing
arrangement**

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
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Observations

- Date of establishment: 8/12/1998
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The mandate of the High Level Working Group and Asylum and Migration (HLWG) was last updated on 3 June 2002 (9433/02).
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
n/a
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - The Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration will perform its tasks in close coordination and avoiding duplication with other Council preparatory bodies, in particular the Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (E.01 – mandate 6166/2/99 REV 2); the Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion (E.2 – mandate 10684/93); and the Visa Working Party (E.03). Close coordination with the regional Working Parties, as well as other Working Parties dealing with the external asylum and migration financing, and international development cooperation.
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Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions (SMOR)

Code B.5

Council configuration

The Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions operates under:

- General affairs
 - Foreign affairs
 - Economic and financial affairs¹
 - Justice and home affairs²
 - Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
 - Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
 - Transport, telecommunications and energy
 - Agriculture and fisheries
 - Environment
 - Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
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Sub-areas or subgroups

The Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions has the following sub-areas:

- Structural Measures (SM)
 - Outermost Regions (OR)
 - Macro-regional strategies (MRS)
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Policy areas

Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for issues concerning the development and conduct of cohesion policy in line with Article 174 TFEU and aimed at strengthening the Union's economic, social and territorial cohesion as well as European territorial cooperation.

These include:

- issues related to Structural Funds (pursuant to Articles 175 and 176 TFEU), to the Cohesion Fund (pursuant to Article 177 TFEU) and to the establishment of the ESF+ (pursuant to Article 162 TFEU);
 - any issues related to Article 178 TFEU, which constitutes the legal basis to adopt implementing regulations for the ERDF, the
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1 Including budget

2 Including civil protection

3 Including tourism

4 Including Audio-visual affairs

5 In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

cohesion policy fund supporting the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg);

- issues related to the Union solidarity instrument for providing financial assistance to MS due to major natural disasters and public health emergencies (EU Solidarity Fund) and excluding its budgetary mobilisation;
- other issues concerning common provisions and the overarching financial rules governing the EU shared-management funds in line with article 177 TFEU;
- measures for certain regions in the European Union - namely the European Union outermost regions referred to in Article 355 (1) TFEU. In accordance with Article 349 of the TFEU, this working party deals with specific measures aimed at laying down the conditions of application of the Treaties and the European policies to these regions in order to address the major challenges they face due to their remoteness, insularity, small size, difficult topography and climate, and economic dependence on a reduced number of products. These measures concern areas such as customs and trade policies, fiscal policy, free zones, agriculture, fisheries policies, conditions for supply of raw materials and essential consumer goods, state aids and conditions of access to structural funds and to horizontal Union programmes;
- all issues regarding macro-regional strategies.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
 - structural measures (SM):
Legislative work includes:
 - a) the Common Provisions Regulation and the overarching financial rules governing EU shared-management programmes;
 - b) the cohesion policy package and related fund-specific regulations (ERDF/Cohesion Fund, ESF+, JTF, Interreg);
 - c) other legislative and policy instruments (e.g. European Solidarity Fund);
 - Outermost Regions (OR): legislative proposals concerning special measures to address the handicaps of the outermost regions recognised in Article 349 TFEU;

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- other Union legal acts:

 - external documents or instruments:

 - policy document(s):
 - Council conclusions in its field of competence;

 - other:
 - for instance: Special Reports by the European Court of Auditors on cohesion policy and related funds;
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**Chairing
arrangement**

- The Working Party is chaired by:
- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
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Observations

- Date of establishment:
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:

The Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions is the result of merging three Council preparatory bodies: Structural Measures WP, Outermost Regions WP and FoP group on Macro-regional strategies:

 - The Structural Measures WP held its first meeting in March 1993 and took over the work of the ad-hoc working party on the Structural Funds that was in place since the late eighties.
 - The Outermost Regions WP held its first meeting in 2000, following the work of the former ad hoc working party on the Outermost Regions.
 - Macro-regional strategies: with the launch of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region in 2009, a Friends of the Presidency Group on the Baltic Sea was convened for the first time during the Swedish Presidency in 2009. With the multiplication of macro-regional strategies (the EU Strategy for the Danube Region in 2011, the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region in 2014 and the EU Strategy for the Alpine Region in 2015), in July 2011 Coreper considered appropriate to reactivate the FoP on macro-regional strategies every time there was a need to examine the documents issued by the Commission on the different macro-regional strategies.
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:

The SMOR WP will have close links with the Working Parties
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dealing with issues concerning ESF(+) (Working Party on Social Questions - I.1), EMFAF (Working Party on Fisheries Policy - F.25), AMIF, ISF and BMVI (JHA Counsellors - A.18).

Working Party on Maritime Issues

Code B.27

Council configuration The Working Party on Maritime Issues operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable) *The Working Party on Maritime Issues has the following subgroups:*

- Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)
- European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS)

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- all horizontal issues concerning the Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)⁶;
- all horizontal issues concerning the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS and its revised action plan).

Type of work The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
- other Union legal acts:

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

⁶ Cf. Proposal for a Regulation on the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, Art 1(9)

establishment of EU positions in international fora under Article 218(9) TFEU

external documents or instruments:

examination and discussion of non-binding instruments with third countries and international organisations, preparation of international negotiations, preparation of meetings in international fora, such as the UN, preparation of EU positions in international fora other than those under Article 218(9) TFEU

policy document(s):

preparation of Council conclusions

other:

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

the six-monthly Presidency

a representative of the High Representative

other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 01/07/2021

- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:

The working party inherits the work of two Friends of the Presidency groups, Integrated Maritime Policy activated in July 2006 (11748/06) and EU Maritime Security Strategy, activated in 2014 (1913/14) .

- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
n/a

- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:

Working Party on Structural Measures and Outermost Regions (B.5); Horizontal Working Party on Cyber Issues (B.23), Horizontal Working Party on Enhancing Resilience and Countering Hybrid Threats (B.26), Working Party on the Law of the Sea (C.3), Politico-Military Group (C.25). Working Party on Shipping (H.2), Working Party on Transport - Intermodal Questions and Networks (H.4); Working Party on Energy (H.7), Working Party of Fisheries (F.25), Working Party on International Environment Issues (J.2), Working Party on the Environment (J.1), Working Party on Research (G.13). The Working Party on Maritime Issues may deal with classified information when discussing maritime security and defence aspects.

Working Party on Non-Proliferation and Arms Exports

Code C.20

Council configuration The Working Party on Non-Proliferation and Arms Exports operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable) The Working Party on Non-Proliferation and Arms Export has the following subgroups:

- Non-proliferation and disarmament (CONOP)
- Conventional arms exports (COARM)

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for: Dealing with EU work in the areas of non-proliferation, global disarmament and arms control, as well as arms export control

Under CONOP, the Working Party is responsible for the preparation and coordination of EU action relating to:

- non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery,
- conventional arms control and disarmament at a global level; and
- CFSP aspects relevant for outer space.

As regards the Union's restrictive measures against the proliferation and use of chemical weapons, the WP under CONOP is responsible for:

- recommendations for listing and de-listing natural or legal persons, entities or bodies and regularly reviewing the listings, in

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

accordance with the designation criteria set out in the Council Decision and Regulation concerning restrictive measures against the proliferation and the use of chemical weapons;

- assessing the impact and functioning of the Council Decision and Regulation and suggesting, as appropriate, possible improvements (12830/18);

Under COARM, the WP is responsible for the preparation and coordination of EU action relating to issues on the control of exports of conventional arms.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following: (if applicable):

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

legislative act(s):

other Union legal acts:

Council Decisions in the field of non-proliferation, global disarmament and arms control, as well as arms export control and related activities

external documents or instruments:

policy document(s):

such as Council conclusions, EU Strategy on Weapons of Mass Destruction, EU strategy against illicit firearms, small arms and light weapons and their ammunition (SALW), EU Statements, EU lines to take, EU joint replies to UNGA Resolutions, EU demarches;

other:

EU Common Military List updates, Annual Report on Arms exports, Annual Progress Report on implementation of EU Strategy on Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
- a representative of the High Representative
- other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment:
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update: October 2018 (12830/18) - last mandate update for CONOP (establishment of CONOP: 21.12.1995 (10939/95)), establishment of CODUN: first known meeting on 18.11.1994, establishment of COARM: 29.12.1994 (SN 1230/95)
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Foreign Relations Counsellors Working Party (C.1), regarding legal acts;

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- Working Party on Dual Use Goods (C.23), in area of export controls;
 - Relevant geographical Council WPs notably regarding restrictive measures;
 - Working Party on Space (G.22) in area of outer space.
- The Working Party can meet in a secured environment and can deal with classified information up to EU SECRET level.
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Working Party on Trade Questions

Code	C.27
Council configuration	<p>The Working Party on Trade Questions operates under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> General affairs<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Economic and financial affairs¹<input type="checkbox"/> Justice and home affairs²<input type="checkbox"/> Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³<input type="checkbox"/> Transport, telecommunications and energy<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and fisheries<input type="checkbox"/> Environment<input type="checkbox"/> Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable)	n/a
Policy areas	<p>Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- trade-related legislation and measures defining the framework for implementing the common commercial policy.- monitoring of market economy status (MES) and market economy treatment (MET) of non-EU countries in the context of trade defence;- discussing the state of play of EU litigation in trade defence investigations;- monitoring of trade defence measures in force and of ongoing investigations launched by non-EU countries against the EU or certain EU member states;- monitoring of activities of the hearing officer in charge of ensuring fair trade proceedings;- discussing the state of play of World Trade Organization (WTO) settlement disputes related to trade defence instruments;- dealing with trade matters related to the textiles/clothing, steel and other industrial sectors.

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

The Working Party on Trade Questions deals with a variety of legislative files in the area of the common commercial policy, both at the stage of the negotiations on the legislative files and in the monitoring during the implementation phase of the file.

- other Union legal acts:

- external documents or instruments:

The Working Party on Trade Questions also discusses the state of play of World Trade Organization settlement of disputes related to trade defence instruments and monitors the market economy status and market economy treatment of non-EU countries.

- policy document(s):

- other:

The Working Party on Trade Questions monitors the activities of the Hearing Officer in charge of ensuring fair trade proceedings.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
- a representative of the High Representative
- other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 22/06/1960
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The original mandate of the Working Party was established in 22 June 1960 by Coreper and is included in 405/60. No update has been issued. The Trade Policy Committee (steel, textiles and other industrial sectors), which is being merged with the Working Party on Trade Questions, was created in 2008 as a result of a merger of the Article 133 Committee (Textiles) and of the Article 133 Committee (Steel), and its mandate is set out in 15373/08 + COR 1.
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
The Working Party on Trade Questions is closely linked with the
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Trade Policy Committee (A.4), given that both cover the common commercial policy. The Working Party on Trade Questions focuses on the legislative files and trade defence whereas the Trade Policy Committee deals with international negotiations and broader trade policy.

Working Party on Development Cooperation and International Partnerships (CODEV-PI)

Code	C30
Council configuration	<p>The Working Party on development cooperation and international partnerships operates under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> General affairs<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Economic and financial affairs¹<input type="checkbox"/> Justice and home affairs²<input type="checkbox"/> Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³<input type="checkbox"/> Transport, telecommunications and energy<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and fisheries<input type="checkbox"/> Environment<input type="checkbox"/> Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
Sub-areas or subgroups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe- Preparation of international development conferences
Policy areas	<p>Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- discussing the policy principles, objectives and modalities of the EU's action in regard to development cooperation and certain aspects of EU cooperation with third countries, in accordance with articles 208 to 211 as well as article 212 of the TFEU;- In the framework of the Union's development cooperation policy, preparing Council strategic guidance, examining and monitoring in particular the following objectives and issues:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• foster the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of developing countries, with the primary aim of eradicating poverty;• the coordination of development policies of the EU and of the Member States as well as possible joint actions;• the commitments taken and the objectives approved by the EU and its Member States in international fora;• measures necessary for the implementation of the EU's development cooperation policy.

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

The subgroup on NDICI-Global Europe is responsible inter alia for regularly exchanging views and following-up on all matters referred to in the statement by the Council on governance with respect to NDICI -Global Europe⁶, with a view to informing the strategic guidance by the Council with regard to principal policy objectives and priorities of the instrument:

- the overall strategic choices for the programming, including the allocation of funding of the geographic and thematic pillars of the instrument, as well as for the use of the rapid response pillar and the mobilisation of the emerging challenges and priorities cushion;
- the monitoring of the optimal use of resources in relation to the spending targets, the suspension of EU external assistance under the instrument, as well as the results of geographic and thematic evaluations;
- the use of Union funding to meet the objectives set out in the instrument.

The subgroup on NDICI-Global Europe also deals with other matters related to the above, such as draft delegated acts, etc.

The subgroup on the preparation of international development conferences is responsible for:

- Exchanging information, as necessary, on the participation of the EU and preparation of EU positions for international development conferences such as the UN-HABITAT Assembly and UNCTAD Conferences.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI-Global Europe) Regulation
- other Union legal acts:
- external documents or instruments:
UN-HABITAT; UNCTAD
- policy document(s):
Commission communications, joint Commission/High Representative

⁶ ST 6899/21 ADD1, paragraphs 2 to 4. Note: NDICI is not yet adopted: the reference should be updated with a reference to the final (approved) document.

communications, action plans, reports; Council conclusions.

other:

Follow-up to Court of Auditors special reports.

**Chairing
arrangement**

The Working Party is chaired by:

the six-monthly Presidency

a representative of the High Representative

other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 30/11/1972
- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
This is the first revision of the original mandate. The main new elements as compared to the initial mandate are the addition of issues relating to the governance of the NDICI-Global Europe and issues previously covered by the WP on the preparation of international development conferences (formerly C31).
- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
The elements of the mandate relating to sub-group NDICI-Global Europe may need reviewing at the end of the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
Coherence, consistency and complementarity with the work of other working parties in charge of geographical or thematic aspects of development cooperation or international partnerships, should be encouraged through regular exchanges of information.

Where relevant and necessary, the Working Party may focus discussions on a certain geographical area or specific theme, in particular when exchanging views and following-up on the overall strategic choices for the programming, including the allocation of funding of the geographic and thematic pillars of the NDICI, as well as on the use of the rapid response action pillars and the mobilisation of the emerging challenges and priorities cushion.

Working Party on Financial Services and the Banking Union

Code	D.3
Council configuration	<p>The Working Party on Financial Services and the Banking Union operates under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> General affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic and financial affairs¹<input type="checkbox"/> Justice and home affairs²<input type="checkbox"/> Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³<input type="checkbox"/> Transport, telecommunications and energy<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and fisheries<input type="checkbox"/> Environment<input type="checkbox"/> Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable)	<p>The Working Party on Financial Services and the Banking Union has the following subgroups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Financial Services- Banking Union
Policy areas	<p>Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for: In particular, legislative files in the remit of financial services, including in the areas of the banking union and capital markets union.</p> <p>The “Banking Union” subgroup covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Commission proposal of 24 November 2015 to establish a European Deposit Insurance Scheme (EDIS) (14649/15), and• the communication "Towards the completion of the Banking Union" (14650/15),• and other related measures. <p>The “Financial Services” subgroup covers all other measures falling under the above-mentioned policy areas.</p>
Type of work	<p>The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following: (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council’s Rules of Procedure

-
- Policy preparation
 - legislative act(s):
financial services, including in the areas of the banking union and capital markets union.
 - other Union legal acts:
financial services, including in the areas of the banking union and capital markets union.
 - external documents or instruments:

 - policy document(s):

 - other:

Chairing arrangement

- The Working Party is chaired by:
- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment:
- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
This group results from the merger of the Working Party on Financial Services (D.3) with the Ad Hoc Working Party on the Strengthening of the Banking Union (D.14). The merged D.3 is a long-standing group, previously called Economic Questions Working Party on Financial Services (13174/99). D.14 was established by COREPER on 13 January 2016 (5006/16).
- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
The subgroup "Banking Union" will expire once the themes under its scope, and in particular the Commission proposal to establish a European Deposit Insurance Scheme, have been adequately addressed.
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
The Working Party on Financial Services and the Banking Union is related to the Counsellors/Attachés (financial services) (A.18), in that the former is typically composed of the members of the latter plus the respective national experts. D.3 is also related to the Financial Services Committee ("FSC") (A.12), because the FSC discusses many future OLP and other proposals that will fall within the remit of D.3 after receipt of the Commission's formal proposal.

Working Party on Tax Questions

Code D.4

Council configuration The Working Party on Tax Questions operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party on Tax Questions has the following subgroups:

- High Level
- Indirect Taxation
- Direct Taxation

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:
Taxation files in the EU context.

The responsibilities of the subgroups cover:

High Level:

- discussion of general EU and international tax policy issues;
 - contributing to discussions on tax issues with third countries and with international organisations such as the OECD;
 - horizontal coordination in the field of taxation and ensuring coherent handling of legislative and non-legislative activities;
 - preparation and implementation at experts' level of ECOFIN orientations and decisions;
 - monitoring and assessing all dossiers discussed in the Working Party on Tax Questions and reporting to ECOFIN on progress made.
-

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Indirect Taxation:

- value-added tax (VAT);
- excise duties;
- energy taxation;
- financial transaction tax;
- administrative cooperation;
- other indirect taxation matters.

Direct Taxation

- corporate taxation;
 - administrative cooperation;
 - other direct taxation matters.
-

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
 - legislation pertaining to the tax policy field
 - other Union legal acts:
 - external documents or instruments:
 - preparation and monitoring of multilateral negotiations on tax policy, both in the EU context and in the international context
 - policy document(s):
 - biannual ECOFIN reports to the European Council on tax issues
 - Council conclusions on tax policy
 - other:
 - e.g. European Court of Auditors' reports
-

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 22/06/2001
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The High Level subgroup was previously known (until 30.6.2021) as the High Level Working Party on Taxation, set up on 22 June 2001 by a decision of Coreper (9963/01).
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
Link with the Code of Conduct Group (covering
-

intergovernmental work on business taxation) (D.5) and its subgroups, and with the (Fiscal) Counsellors/Attachés (A.18).

Working Party on Customs Union

Code D15

Council configuration The Working Party on Customs Union operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party on Customs Union has the following subgroup:

- Directors General of Customs

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- legislative and non-legislative activities related to the Customs Union;
- the preparation of EU external action in the customs area at bilateral and multilateral level;
- evaluation of the governance of the Customs Union and the coherence of the relevant activities;
- examining the implementation of actions of horizontal importance and their coherence with relevant Council conclusions;
- preparatory work for the meetings of the subgroup of Directors General of Customs.

The subgroup of Directors General of Customs is entrusted with:

- providing horizontal overview or guidance at their level on strategic customs policy issues in the Council, including legislative and non-legislative activities related to the Customs Union, customs cooperation, and cooperation of customs
-

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

authorities with other authorities and agencies or in the context of international organisations;

- providing strategic guidance at their level on the implementation of actions of horizontal importance and evaluating their coherence with relevant Council conclusions;
- providing guidance at their level on governance of the Customs Union and evaluating coherence of the relevant activities.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following: (if applicable):

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
- other Union legal acts:
- external documents or instruments:
- policy document(s):
- other: e.g. follow-up to reports of the Court of Auditors in the Customs Union area.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
- a representative of the High Representative
- other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment:
- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The Directors General of Customs subgroup was previously known as the High Level Working Party of Directors General for Customs, established in 2016. The latter's terms of reference are set out in 14649/16 and the latest update of the tasks is in the Council conclusions set out in 13831/20.
- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
The Working Party on Customs Union has links with the Law Enforcement Working Party (covering customs cooperation aspects falling under Justice and Home Affairs).

Working Party on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters (COPEN)

Code E.14

Council configuration The Working Party on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups n/a
(if applicable)

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for: All legislative and non-legislative activities in the field of EU criminal law, in particular criminal law issues referred to in Chapter 4, Title 5, Part Three TFEU. The relevant areas include the following:

- judicial cooperation in criminal matters, including mutual recognition instruments;
- procedural criminal law;
- substantive criminal law;
- cross-border collection of and use of electronic evidence in criminal proceedings, including the issue of data retention;
- development and functioning of the European Public Prosecutors Office;
- development and functioning of Eurojust and of the European Judicial Network in criminal matters (EJN);
- guidance on judicial training;
- reports and other issues relating to mutual evaluations, where appropriate in liaison with other Working Parties.

1 Including budget

2 Including civil protection

3 Including tourism

4 Including Audio-visual affairs

5 In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

The Working Party deals with proposals for legislative acts related to the areas mentioned above.

- other Union legal acts:

The Working Party deals with other proposals for legal acts, such as Council decisions, including on the opening of negotiations for agreements with third countries in the field of criminal law.

- external documents or instruments:

The Working Party carries out various work in the field of the relations between the EU and third states or international organisations, such as the preparation of positions to be taken by the EU (and its Member States) in relation to texts to be adopted in international fora (e.g. for a declaration/political document for UN or Council of Europe level), and discussing and providing guidance on concrete initiatives on judicial cooperation with third countries in the context of the preparation of and follow up to external dialogues.

- policy document(s):

The Working Party prepares policy documents, such as Council or Presidency conclusions and Presidency reports in various fields.

- other:

The Working Party is also a forum to discuss relevant case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the implementation and the application of adopted legislative acts, and reports drafted by agencies and external bodies in the field of criminal law.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 15/03/1999
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The mandate of the COPEN Working Party was enlarged following the merger with the Working Party on Substantive Criminal law (DROIPEN) in 2021. The mandate also takes into account the abolishment of the GENVAL Working Party.
-

If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:

The COPEN Working Party cooperates with other Working Parties when the issues overlap. This can include the Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons (FREMP) (E.22), the Working Party on e-Justice (E.31) (in particular on digitalisation of justice), and the Law Enforcement Working Party (E.26) (in particular on the relation between Europol and Eurojust, on access to data for law enforcement purposes, or on issues related to mutual evaluation exercises). It can also include Working Parties competent for a policy sector submitted to approximation of substantive criminal law. The Working Party also prepares files that are submitted to other Working Parties/bodies, such as the Coordinating Committee in the area of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (CATS), with which it works in close harmonisation. In the framework of its activities, the COPEN Working Party may benefit, where relevant, from the expertise of bodies such as Eurojust, the EJM, eu-LISA⁶ and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

⁶ The EU Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Law Enforcement Working Party

Code E.26

Council configuration The Law Enforcement Working Party operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable) The Law Enforcement Working Party has the following subgroups:

E.26.A Law Enforcement Working Party (Police)
E.26.B Law Enforcement Working Party (Customs)

The Working Party can also meet in joint format (police and customs), where the Presidency so decides.

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- legislative and non-legislative activities in the area of cooperation involving police, customs and other relevant authorities, with respect to the prevention, detection and investigation of crimes and other unlawful activities;
- legislative and non-legislative activities related to relevant EU bodies, offices or agencies, in particular Europol and CEPOL.

Type of work The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

legislative act(s):

Police and customs cooperation, in particular on the basis of Articles 87 and 88 TFEU.

other Union legal acts:

Council Decisions on appointments in relevant EU bodies, offices or agencies, in particular active in the area of law enforcement, in particular Europol and CEPOL, mandates for negotiations on Europol's cooperation agreements with third countries etc.

external documents or instruments:

International agreements in the area of police and customs cooperation

policy document(s):

Council Conclusions, Resolutions, Strategies and Declarations in the area of police and customs cooperation, Joint Customs Operations (JCO) Guides, Action Plans etc.

other:

e.g. situation awareness papers, threat assessments/risk analysis, guidelines, handbooks, networks and expert groups linked to the police and customs cooperation

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

the six-monthly Presidency

a representative of the High Representative

other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 1/07/2021
- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
Establishment of the CCWP in 1993, establishment of the LEWP under this name on 16 December 2009 (17653/09)
- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
Some aspects of operational police and customs cooperation, such as fight against organised crime within the EMPACT, are primarily coordinated in the Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI) (A.6) and COSI support group.
The internal market, customs union and some aspects of the customs cooperation could be addressed in the Working Party on Customs Union (D.15), including in the format of Director-Generals of Customs.
Some operational aspects linked to the dual use good, such as enforcement of dual use of export controls are primarily coordinated in the Working Party on Dual-Use Goods (C.23).

Working Party on e-Justice

Code	E.31
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Council configuration	<p>The Working Party on e-Justice operates under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> General affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Economic and financial affairs¹<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Justice and home affairs²<input type="checkbox"/> Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³<input type="checkbox"/> Transport, telecommunications and energy<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and fisheries<input type="checkbox"/> Environment<input type="checkbox"/> Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
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Sub-areas or subgroups (if applicable)	n/a
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Policy areas	<p>Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for following up on the various EU initiatives in the field of the digitalisation of justice, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the e-Justice strategy and Action Plan,- work on identifiers for legislation and case law, and- work on the e-Justice Portal, as well as the systems and websites (such as EUR-Lex and N-Lex) managed by the Publications Office of the European Union.
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Type of work	<p>The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy preparation <p>In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:</p>
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¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

legislative act(s):

The Working Party deals with proposals for legislative acts related to e-Justice.

other Union legal acts:

external documents or instruments:

policy document(s):

The Working Party prepares policy documents, such as Council or Presidency conclusions, like the e-Justice strategy and Action Plan and Presidency reports.

other:

Coordination of Member States' activities in the field of digitalisation of justice.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

the six-monthly Presidency

a representative of the High Representative

other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 1/07/2021

- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:

The e-Justice WP replaces the e-Law WP whose mandate is set out in 16113/10 (creation of 3 sub-formations: e-Law, e-Justice, and joint e-Law and e-Justice). Doc. 17653/09: transformation of the previous B.10 Working Party on Legal Data Processing (E-justice and E-law) into the WP on E-Law, with the mandate, inter alia of implementing the action plan on e-justice.

- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:

The WP on e-Justice will have regular cooperation with the Working Party on Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters (COPEN) (E.14), and the Working Party on Civil Law Matters (E.7), and Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society (H.5) as the instruments developed within the framework of e-Justice will be used for the implementation of EU initiatives (for example, the Service of Documents/Taking of Evidence Regulations).

Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions

Code	F.3
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Council configuration	<p>The Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions operates under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> General affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Economic and financial affairs¹<input type="checkbox"/> Justice and home affairs²<input type="checkbox"/> Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs<input type="checkbox"/> Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³<input type="checkbox"/> Transport, telecommunications and energy<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and fisheries<input type="checkbox"/> Environment<input type="checkbox"/> Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
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Sub-areas or subgroups	<p>The Working Party has the following sub-areas or subgroups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- High Level- Agriculture and Environment- Direct Payments- Rural Development- Outermost Regions and Aegean Islands- Promotion of Agricultural Products- Organic Farming- Geographical Indications and Designations of Origin- Simplification of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
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Policy areas	<p>Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for: Issues related to the Common Agricultural Policy</p>
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Type of work	<p>The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy preparation
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¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

legislative act(s):

Legislative acts belonging to the above policy areas

other Union legal acts:

external documents or instruments:

policy document(s):

Policy documents belonging to the above policy areas

other:

**Chairing
arrangement**

The Working Party is chaired by:

the six-monthly Presidency

a representative of the High Representative

other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 3/02/2021

 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
Merger of the High Level Group on Agriculture (F.1), the Working Party on Agricultural Structures and Rural Development (F.2), the Working Party on the Promotion of Agricultural Products (F.4), and certain subgroups of the Working Party on Foodstuff Quality (F.6).

 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable

 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Reports, in principle, to the Special Committee on Agriculture (A.8)⁶
 - Working Party on Financial Agricultural Questions (F.15)
 - Counsellors/Attachés (A.18)
-

⁶ The Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) was established by a decision of the Council of 20 July 1960. The Council confirmed its mandate as formulated in the decision of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on 12 May 1960 to prepare decisions of the Agriculture Council.

Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture

Code

F.5

Council configuration

The Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture operates under:

- General affairs
 - Foreign affairs
 - Economic and financial affairs¹
 - Justice and home affairs²
 - Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
 - Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
 - Transport, telecommunications and energy
 - Agriculture and fisheries
 - Environment
 - Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
-

Sub-areas or subgroups

The Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture has the following sub-areas or groups:

- Genetic Resources
 - Seeds, Propagating and Planting Materials
 - Plant Breeders' Rights
 - Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) and other innovations relevant to agriculture
-

Policy areas

Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for issues related to:

- genetic resources for food and agriculture; coordination and preparation of EU positions for the FAO's Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA);
 - seeds, propagating and planting materials (quality aspects); production and marketing of plant reproductive material; recognition of equivalence of seed certification systems;
 - plant breeders' rights; community plant variety rights;
-

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

-
- coordination and preparation of EU positions for the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV);
- genetically modified organisms (GMO) and new genomic techniques (NGT); other innovations in biotechnology relevant to agriculture.
-

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

EU legislation in the above policy areas

- other Union legal acts:

Council decisions under Article 218(9) TFEU

- external documents or instruments:

EU positions for the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA), the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)

- policy document(s):

Council conclusions in the above policy areas

- other:

Follow-up to reports of the Court of Auditors in the above policy areas

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 3/02/2021
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
Merger of existing Working Party on Genetic Resources in Agriculture (F.5) with certain subgroups of the Working Party on Agricultural Questions (F.17), i.e. Seeds and Propagating Material, Plant Breeders' Rights, and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO).
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on International Food and Agriculture Questions (F.22)
 - Counsellors/Attachés (A.18)
 - Working Party on Plant and Plant Health Questions (F.19)
 - Working Party of Food and Food Systems (F.27)
 - Working Party on the Environment (J.1)
 - Working Party on International Environment Issues (J.2)
-

Working Party on Plants and Plant Health Questions

Code

F.19

Council configuration

The Working Party on Plants and Plant Health Questions operates under:

- General affairs
 - Foreign affairs
 - Economic and financial affairs¹
 - Justice and home affairs²
 - Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
 - Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
 - Transport, telecommunications and energy
 - Agriculture and fisheries
 - Environment
 - Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
-

Sub-areas or subgroups

The Working Party on Plants and Plant Health Questions has the following sub-areas and subgroups:

- Chief Plant Health Officers
 - Protection and Inspection
 - Propagating and Planting Materials
 - Roosendaal Group
 - International Plant Protection Convention/Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (IPPC/CPM) Affairs
 - Pesticides/Plant Protection Products
-

Policy areas

Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- All issues related to the following areas: plant health, pesticides/plant protection products and propagating and planting materials (plant health aspects)
 - Phytosanitary questions related to the trade of plants and plant products
 - Official controls, financial aspects and preparation of the EU's positions for bilateral and multilateral international negotiations with regard to the above policy areas
-

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

Legislation related to the policy areas indicated above

- other Union legal acts:

Council decisions based on Article 218(9)TFEU

- external documents or instruments:

EU positions for discussions in related international organisations, in particular for the IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention) and EPPO (European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization) activities

- policy document(s):

Council conclusions

- other:

Follow up to reports of the Court of Auditors regarding the above policy areas

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 3/02/2021
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
Merger of existing Working Party on Plant Health (F.19) with certain subgroups of the Working Party on Agricultural Questions (F.17), i.e. Harmful Organisms and Pesticides/Plant Protection Products, and with the Working Party of Chief Plant Health Officers (F.18).
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation In Agriculture (F.5)
 - Working Party on Animal and Veterinary Questions (F.21)
-

-
- Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (F.22)
 - Working Party on Food and Food Systems (F.27)
 - Trade Policy Committee (A.4)
 - Counsellors/Attachés (A.18)
 - Working Party on the Environment (J.1)
-
-

Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions

Code

F.21

Council configuration

The Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions operates under:

- General affairs
 - Foreign affairs
 - Economic and financial affairs¹
 - Justice and home affairs²
 - Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
 - Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
 - Transport, telecommunications and energy
 - Agriculture and fisheries
 - Environment
 - Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
-

Sub-areas or subgroups

The Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions has the following sub-areas or subgroups:

- Chief Veterinary Officers
 - Public Health
 - Animal Health
 - Animal Welfare and Husbandry
 - Potsdam Group
 - Feed
-

Policy areas

Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for issues related to:

- Animal health, including the prevention and control of animal diseases and zoonotic diseases;
 - Animal welfare;
 - Animal husbandry;
 - Veterinary medicinal products;
 - Antimicrobial resistance in connection to animal and food production;
 - Food safety;
 - Quality, safety and marketing of feed;
 - Sanitary questions related to the trade of animals, products of
-

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

-
- animal origin and feed;
 - With regard to the above policy areas, the responsibilities of the Working Party include official controls, financial aspects and preparation of the EU's positions for bilateral and multilateral international negotiations.
-

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

Legislative acts belonging to the above policy areas

- other Union legal acts:

Council decisions under article 218(9) TFEU

- external documents or instruments:

EU positions for discussions in related international organisations, in particular the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) and the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADS).

- policy document(s):

Preparation of Council conclusions

- other:

Follow up to reports of the Court of Auditors regarding the policy areas

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 3/02/2021
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
Merger of existing Working Parties of Chief Veterinary Officers (F.20), Veterinary Experts (F.21) and the subgroup 'Feedingstuffs' of the Working Party on Agricultural Questions (F.17).
The mandate of the Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) was defined by Coreper in 2003 and its mandate (16069/03) is maintained.
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
-

Not applicable

- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (F.22)
 - Working Party on Food and Food Systems (F.27)
 - Working Party on Plants and Plant Health Questions (F.19)
 - Working Party on Public Health (I.2)
 - Working Party on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices (I.4)
 - Trade Policy Committee (A.4)
 - Counsellors/Attachés (A.18)
-

Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions

Code

F.22

Council configuration

The Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions operates under:

- General affairs
 - Foreign affairs
 - Economic and financial affairs¹
 - Justice and home affairs²
 - Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
 - Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
 - Transport, telecommunications and energy
 - Agriculture and fisheries
 - Environment
 - Education, youth, culture and sport⁴
-

Sub-areas or subgroups

The Working Party has the following sub-areas or subgroups:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Codex Alimentarius

Policy areas

Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- the coordination and preparation of EU positions for a number of international organisations, UN agencies, multilateral or intergovernmental processes and high-level international events tasked with:
 - developing global standards and policy instruments in the area of food and nutrition, agriculture, fisheries and forestry (FAO) and addressing policy issues closely related to FAO's mandate and activities (including the Committee on World Food Security (CFS));
 - establishing international certification schemes for seeds and forest reproductive material (OECD);
 - setting international quality standards for fruit and vegetables

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

-
- (OECD and UNECE);
- developing global food safety standards (Codex Alimentarius)
-

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):
- other Union legal acts:

Council Decisions under Article 218(9) TFEU

- external documents or instruments:

EU positions for the FAO, OECD, UNECE, Codex Alimentarius and related multilateral or intergovernmental processes

- policy document(s):

Council conclusions

- other:

Follow-up to reports of the Court of Auditors in the above policy areas

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 3/02/2021
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
Combines the mandates of the Coordination Working Party (FAO, OECD and UNECE, former F.22), and of the Codex Alimentarius WP (former F.23).
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions (F.3)
 - Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (F.5)
 - Working Party on Agricultural Products (F.8)
 - Working Party on Forestry (F.16)
 - Working Party on Plants and Plant Health Questions (F.19)
 - Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (F.21)
 - Working Party on Fisheries Policy (F.25)
-

-
- Working Party on Food and Food Systems (F.27)
 - Working Party on Trade Questions (C.27)
 - Working Party on Development Cooperation (CODEV) (C.30)
 - United Nations Working Party (CONUN) (C.4)
 - Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) (C.33)
 - Counsellors/Attachés (A.18)
 - Working Party on Public Health (I.2)
 - Working Party on Environment (J.1)
-

Working Party on Fisheries Policy

Code F.25

Council configuration The Working Party on Fisheries Policy operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party on Fisheries Policy has the following sub-areas or sub-groups:

- Directors General

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:
All issues related to internal and external fisheries policy

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

legislation in the field of fisheries and aquaculture, including the CFP basic regulation, financing instruments, technical and control measures, and the transposition of international obligations into EU law

- other Union legal acts:

setting of fishing opportunities, establishment of EU positions in international fora, negotiating mandates for bilateral and international fisheries agreements, decisions on the signing and conclusion of bilateral and international agreements

Council implementing decisions under the IUU Regulation

- external documents or instruments:

preparation of international negotiations, preparation of meetings in international fora and bilateral joint committees

- policy document(s):

Council conclusions

- other:

follow-up to reports of Court of Auditors

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: 1969

 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
WP on Peche from 1969 to 1978;
WP on External Fisheries from 1976 to 2007 (B.301);
WP on Internal Fisheries from 1977 to 2009 (B.302);
WP on Internal and External Fisheries since the end of 2001 (B.304)
WP on Fisheries Policy (F.25)- since 01/07/21

 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable

 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on the United Kingdom (A.20)
 - Working Party on structural measures and outermost regions
-

-
- (B.05)
- Working Party on the Law of Sea (C.3)
 - Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (F.22)
 - Working Party on Food and Food Systems (F.27)
-

Working Party on Food and Food Systems

Code F.27

Council configuration The Working Party on Food and Food Systems operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party on Food and Food Systems has the following sub-areas or subgroups:

- Food systems
- Food safety
- Food information and nutrition
- Pesticide residues

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- Horizontal issues related to food systems sustainability, including, food waste, EFSA, official controls, food fraud;
- Issues related to food safety and composition requirements, including food improvement agents, food contact materials, irradiated food, contaminants and pesticide residues, novel foods, food for specific groups, addition of vitamins and minerals,

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

marketing standards for specific foods (fruit juices, cocoa, honey, mineral waters, etc);

- Issues related to food information and nutrition, including information on ingredients, nutrients and allergens, health and nutritional claims, nutrient profiles, food supplements, food reformulation.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

Legislation related to the policy areas indicated above

- other Union legal acts:
- external documents or instruments:
- policy document(s):

Council conclusions in the above policy areas covered by the Working Party

- other:

Follow-up to reports of the Court of Auditors in the above policy areas

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
- a representative of the High Representative
- other, namely:

Observations

- Date of establishment: 3/02/2021
- If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The Working Party on Food and Food systems replaces the Working Party on Foodstuffs, with the addition of topics related to the whole food chain and its sustainability
- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable
- If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (F.5)

-
- Working Party on Forestry (F.16)
 - Working Party on Plants and Plant Health Questions (F.19)
 - Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (F.21)
 - Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (F.22)
 - Working Party on Agriculture Products (F.8)
 - Working Party on Fisheries Policy (F.25)
 - Working Party on Public Health (I.2)
 - Counsellors/Attachés (A.18)
-
-

Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (CompGro)

Code G.1

Council configuration The Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth has the following sub-areas or sub-groups:

- High Level
- Better Regulation
- Industry
- Internal Market
- Public Procurement
- Tourism

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

Policy areas

Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- providing guidance and support on horizontal and specific issues related to competitiveness and growth in the European Union, to the smooth functioning of the internal market and to European industry, also in relation to the Council's (Competitiveness) input to the European Council within the relevant instruments, and on the application of better regulation principles;
- assisting in achieving synergies from the different areas for which the Council (Competitiveness) is responsible;
- exchanging information on national initiatives concerning competitiveness and growth.

The High Level sub-group is responsible for providing guidance and advice on issues relating to competitiveness and growth. This includes monitoring the state of the single market, identifying policy options in relevant areas and discussing policy priorities, including within the European Semester, as well as promoting the exchange of information and best practices and monitoring and mainstreaming competitiveness. The High Level sub-group also supports the Council in its role of monitoring and mainstreaming competitiveness, across all relevant policy initiatives, particularly those based on Articles 114 and 173 TFEU.

The Better Regulation sub-group is responsible for issues related to the development of a more open, transparent, and evidence-based policy-making for EU citizens, stakeholders and businesses, especially SMEs, in particular by advising on better law-making, and by promoting the application of the better regulation principles to create a less burdensome, high quality and future-proof regulatory environment.

The Industry sub-group is responsible for all issues relating to the conditions necessary for the competitiveness of the Union's industry, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and including specific measures in support of action taken in the Member States to achieve this objective.

The Internal Market sub-group is responsible for all issues concerning the internal market, including on the digital single market, notably with regard to the free movement of goods and services. These issues include the development of the applicable legal framework and the monitoring of its enforcement.

The Public Procurement sub-group is responsible for issues related to the development of public procurement rules and policy.

The Tourism sub-group is responsible for issues related to the promotion of the competitiveness and sustainability of Union undertakings in the tourism sector by complementing the action of the Member States in this

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

field, particularly by encouraging the creation of a favourable environment for their sustainable development as well as by promoting cooperation between the Member States.

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following: (if applicable):

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

Legislative acts belonging to the above policy areas.

- other Union legal acts:

Other Union legal acts having an effect on the above policy areas.

- external documents or instruments:

Contribution papers by business, industry or other relevant stakeholders, including international organisations in the above policy areas, are presented

- policy document(s):

Commission communications, Council conclusions, follow up to non binding papers by EU Institutions and other EU bodies.

- other:

Follow-up to reports of the Court of Auditors and papers presented by one or more Member States which are then discussed in the Working Party. For Court of Auditors' special reports this involves the preparation of Council conclusions.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
- a representative of the High Representative
- other, namely:

All sub-groups of the Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth are chaired by the rotating Presidency, with the exception of the sub-group High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth, which is chaired by a Chair elected among the Trio Presidency members for 18 months

Observations

- Date of establishment: 26/11/2002
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update:
The Working Party Competitiveness and Growth was established on 26 November 2002 (14818/02).
The subgroup High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and
-

Growth was established on 31 October 2014 and its mandate (15006/14) is maintained.

- If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date:
Not applicable

 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on Intellectual Properties (G.3)
 - Working Party on Company Law (G.4)
 - Working Party on Technical Harmonisation (G.7)
 - Working Party on Competition (G.12)
 - Working Party on Research (G.13)
 - European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) (G.21)
 - Working Party on Space (G.22)
 - Working Party Consumer Protection and Information (G.23)
-

Working Party on Research

Code G.13

Council configuration The Working Party on Research operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party on Research has the following sub-areas or subgroup:
- Atomic Questions

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:
All matters related to EU's Research and Technological Development (Articles 179-188 and 190 of TFEU)

The subgroup on Atomic Questions is responsible for all matters related to nuclear research under the Euratom Treaty

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

Research and Technological Development

- other Union legal acts:

Research and Technological Development, including nuclear research

- external documents or instruments:

International Agreements in the field of Research and Technological Development, including nuclear research

- policy document(s):

Commission communications, action plans, strategies, declarations and Council conclusions on Research and Technological Development, including nuclear research

- other:

Follow up of reports of the Court of Auditors concerning Research and Technological Development, including nuclear research

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: Not applicable
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update: Not applicable
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date: Not applicable
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on Atomic Questions (B.7)
 - Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (G.1)
 - European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) (G.21)
 - Working Party on Space (G.22)
 - Working Party on Aviation (H.3)
 - Working Party on Transport - Intermodal Questions and Networks (H.4)
 - Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society (H.5)
 - Working Party on Environment (J.1)
 - Education Committee (K.1)
-

Working Party on Public Health

Code I.2

Council configuration The Working Party on Public Health operates under:

- General affairs
- Foreign affairs
- Economic and financial affairs¹
- Justice and home affairs²
- Employment, social policy, health and consumer affairs
- Competitiveness (internal market, industry, research and space)³
- Transport, telecommunications and energy
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Education, youth, culture and sport⁴

Sub-areas or subgroups The Working Party has the following sub-areas or subgroups:

- High level

Policy areas Under the authority of Coreper⁵, the Working Party is responsible for:

- public health issues for which the Union has developed legislation (blood, cells and tissues, tobacco, patients' rights in cross border healthcare, ECDC mandate, cross border threats to health).
- strategic discussion on common health and health-related issues, including global health.

¹ Including budget

² Including civil protection

³ Including tourism

⁴ Including Audio-visual affairs

⁵ In accordance with Article 240(1) TFEU and the Council's Rules of Procedure

Type of work

The Working Party is mainly in charge of the following:

- Work on Union legal acts (i.e. legislative acts and other legal acts)
- Policy preparation

In particular, the Working Party is in charge of:

- legislative act(s):

Legislation on cross border threats to health; on blood, tissues and cells; on tobacco products; on patients' rights in cross border healthcare; on ECDC mandate; on health aspects within the MFF context (EU4Health programme)

- other Union legal acts:

Council recommendations (e.g. on vaccination), establishment of EU positions in international fora (as appropriate)

- external documents or instruments:

Preparation of positions in view of international negotiations (Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and other WHO instruments).

- policy document(s):

Council conclusions

- other:

Examination of, and follow-up to, reports from the European Court of Auditors.

Chairing arrangement

The Working Party is chaired by:

- the six-monthly Presidency
 - a representative of the High Representative
 - other, namely:
-

Observations

- Date of establishment: Not applicable
 - If applicable, evolution of the mandate and last update: Mandate for the Working Party on Public Health at Senior Level endorsed by the Council (16139/08)
 - If applicable, duration of the mandate and/or its expiry date: Not applicable
 - If applicable, main links with other Working Parties:
 - Working Party on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices (I.4)
 - Working Party on Animals and Veterinary Questions (F.21)
 - Working Party on International Food and Agricultural Questions (F.22)
 - Working Party on Food and Food Systems (F.27)
-

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2021/...

of

**amending Decision 2009/908/EU,
laying down measures for the implementation of the European Council Decision
on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council,
and on the chairmanship of preparatory bodies of the Council**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to European Council Decision 2009/881/EU of 1 December 2009 on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council¹, and in particular Article 4 thereof,

¹ OJ L 315, 2.12.2009, p. 50.

Whereas,

- (1) By Decision 2009/908/EU² the Council laid down measures for the implementation of the European Council decision on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council (hereinafter referred to 'the European Council Decision'). The preparatory bodies which are not chaired by the six-monthly Presidency are listed in Annex III of Decision 2009/908/EU, as provided for in Article 2, third subparagraph of the European Council Decision.
- (2) According to Annex III to Decision 2009/908/EU, the Working Party on Legal Data Processing is listed among the preparatory bodies of the Council that are chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council.
- (3) In light of the experience and the type of tasks carried out by the Working Party on Legal Data Processing, it should be chaired by the six-monthly Presidency.
- (4) The Decision 2009/908/EU should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

² Council Decision 2009/908/EU of 1 December 2009, laying down measures for the implementation of the European Council Decision on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council, and on the chairmanship of preparatory bodies of the Council (OJ L 322, 9.12.2009, p. 28).

Article 1

Council Decision 2009/908/EU of 1 December 2009 laying down measures for the implementation of the European Council Decision on the exercise of the Presidency of the Council, and on the chairmanship of preparatory bodies of the Council, is amended as follows:

In Annex III, the text "Working Party on Legal Data Processing" shall be deleted.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

It shall apply from 1 July 2021.

It shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, ...

For the Council

The President
