



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 1 October 2009

12396/09

LIMITE

PV/CONS 42

DRAFT MINUTES ¹

Subject : **2957th** meeting of the Council of the European Union (**GENERAL AFFAIRS**
and EXTERNAL RELATIONS), held in Brussels on 27 July 2009

Session on General Affairs

¹ Information concerning the final adoption of Council acts which may be released to the public may be found in Addendum 1 to these minutes.

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Session on General Affairs

1. Adoption of the agenda

12269/09 OJ/CONS 42

The Council adopted the above agenda.

2. Approval of the list of "A" items

12270/09 PTS A 35

+ COR 1

The Council approved the "A" items as listed in 12270/09 + COR 1.

Information relating to items 79, 80 and 82–96 is set out in Addendum 1 to these minutes.

The documents in items 23, 32, 38, 42, 76, 80, 85, 86, 88, 90, 91, 92 and 95 should read as follows:

Item 23: 11659/09 ECOFIN 489 UEM 202

11660/09 ECOFIN 490 UEM 203

+ **COR 1 (lv)**

11762/09 ECOFIN 502 UEM 209

Item 32: 12285/09 JAI 502 USA 62 RELEX 695 DATAPROTECT 50 ECOFIN 522

+ **REV 1 (fi)**

11715/3/09 REV 3 JAI 449 USA 54 RELEX 638 DATAPROTECT 46

ECOFIN 493

+ **REV 4 (en)**

RESTREINT UE

RESTREINT UE

Item 38: 12194/09 DEVGEN 206 FIN 267 RELEX 684 ACP 173

+ **COR 1 (fi)**

Item 42: 11563/09 ANTIDUMPING 44 COMER 101 ASIE 55

11564/09 ANTIDUMPING 45 COMER 102 ASIE 56

+ **COR 1 (et)**

Item 76: 12084/09 ENV 497 WTO 142 MI 274

+ **REV 1 (mt)**

11407/09 ENV 464 WTO 125 MI 255

Item 80: 11974/09 PECHE 181
+ COR 1
+ COR 2 (sk)
+ COR 3 (cs)
12095/1/09 **REV 1** PECHE 186

Item 85: PE-CONS 3622/09 ENV 301 CODEC 534
+ COR 1 (fi)
+ REV 1 (es)
+ REV 2 (lt)
11531/09 CODEC 932 ENV 480
+ ADD 1
+ ADD 1 COR 1
+ ADD 1 REV 1 (el)
+ ADD 1 REV 2 (hu)

Item 86: PE-CONS 3644/09 DRS 38 COMPET 254 CODEC 694
+ COR 1 (fi)
+ COR 2 (nl)
+ COR 3 (de)
+ REV 1 (ro)
11140/1/09 **REV 1** CODEC 865 COMPET 325 DRS 45
+ ADD 1 REV 2

Item 88: PE-CONS 3668/09 ENV 393 AGRI 241 MI 236 CINER 79 OECGE 141
CODEC 783
+ COR 1 (fi)
+ COR 2 (da)
+ COR 3 (de)
+ REV 1 (ga)
11152/09 CODEC 871 ENV 446 AGRI 271 MI 250 COMER 93 PECHE 161
+ ADD 1

Item 90: PE-CONS 3646/09 SOC 312 CODEC 697
+ COR 1 (pt)
+ COR 2 (ga)
11162/09 CODEC 874 SOC 405
+ ADD 1

Item 91: PE-CONS 3647/09 SOC 313 CODEC 698
11600/09 CODEC 939 SOC 413
+ ADD 1

Item 92: PE-CONS 3642/09 EF 69 ECOFIN 347 CODEC 691
+ COR 1
+ COR 2
+ COR 3 (sk)
+ COR 4 (sv)
+ REV 1 (sl)
+ REV 1 COR 1 (sl)
+ REV 1 COR 2 (sl)
+ REV 2 (cs)
+ REV 2 COR 1 (cs)
+ REV 3 (de)
+ REV 3 COR 1 (de)
11143/09 CODEC 866 ECOFIN 443 EF 93

Item 95: PE-CONS 3666/09 EF 78 ECOFIN 401 CODEC 769
+ COR 1
+ COR 2 (bu)
+ COR 3 (**el**)
+ COR 4 (sv)
+ REV 1 (lt)
+ REV 2 (it)
11150/09 CODEC 869 EF 96 ECOFIN 447

3. Presidency Priorities (public debate)

The Presidency's priorities will be the economy and the environment but also the conclusion of the JHA Stockholm Programme as well as the adoption of the Baltic Sea Strategy. Also during its Presidency, Sweden will seek to strengthen the EU's role as global actor, and a promoter of peace, stability, human rights and democracy.

4. **Proposal for an EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region**

- Presentation of Commission communication
11308/09 FSTR 59 POLGEN 107 REGIO 29 FC 7 ECOFIN 454 ENV 458
TRANS 258 PECHE 165 RECH 211 JAI 416 COEST 237 ENER 236
MI 254 MAR 97 COMPET 328 AGRI 280
+ ADD 1
+ ADD 2
+ ADD 3

The Council took note of the presentation by the Commission of a communication on the EU's strategy for the Baltic Sea region and an associated action plan (11308/09 + ADD 3) and had an exchange of views on this subject.

5. **Enlargement**

- Draft Council conclusions
12311/09 ELARG 43 ISL 6 AELE 29 EEE 45

Following the examination of the application by Iceland for membership of the European Union, the Council reached agreement on the Council conclusions as set out in Annex I to the document 12311/09, and authorised the President of the Council to address to Prime Minister Ms Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Össur Skarphéðinsson a letter in the terms set out in Annex II.

6. **Any Other Business**

- **Turkish activities in the Aegean and in the South East Mediterranean
(at the request of Greece and Cyprus)**

Greece and Cyprus raised this issue in the light of recent Turkish activity in the Aegean and in the Eastern Mediterranean, notably flights of Turkish fighter jets over Greek islands, including, at low altitude, over inhabited areas, and in the airspace of Cyprus, as well as the decision of the Turkish government to conduct geophysical research

activities and exploration in areas overlapping the Greek continental shelf and Cypriot territorial waters, continental shelf and the EEZ. It was noted that such activity is in breach of International Law, inconsistent with good neighbourly relations and not compatible with Turkey's candidate status.

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