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### Information and Notices

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance

## I

*(Resolutions, recommendations and opinions)*

## RESOLUTIONS

## COUNCIL

**Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on youth work**

(2010/C 327/01)

THE COUNCIL AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL:

RECALLING THE POLITICAL BACKGROUND TO THIS ISSUE AS SET OUT IN THE ANNEX, IN PARTICULAR THAT:

- (1) The Treaty provides that EU action is to be aimed at encouraging the development of exchange programmes for young people and socio educational instructors (hereafter called 'youth workers and youth leaders') and the participation of young people in democratic life.
- (2) The European Parliament and the Council adopted the Youth in Action programme by Decision No 1719/2006/EC<sup>(1)</sup>. This programme, which has been increasingly successful in all the Member States, contains an important component devoted to contribute to developing the quality of support systems for youth activities and the capabilities of civil society organisations in the youth field.
- (3) The Council adopted a Resolution on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018) on 29 November 2009. Supporting and developing youth work are regarded as cross-sectoral issues within the framework.
- (4) The conclusions of the European Council of 17 June 2010 where the European Council looks forward to the presentation of the other flagship initiatives before the end of the year<sup>(2)</sup>.

IN THE LIGHT OF:

The 1st European Youth Work Convention of 7-10 July 2010, Ghent (Belgium), which highlighted the importance of youth work.

AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT:

- As outlined in the renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018) (hereafter the 'renewed framework'), the objectives in the youth field are:
  - create more and equal opportunities in education and in the labour market, and
  - promote the active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity of all young people.
- The renewed framework outlines eight fields of action<sup>(3)</sup> in which cross-sectoral youth policy initiatives should be taken and where youth work can contribute. Other important action fields in this regard are human rights and democracy, cultural diversity and mobility.
- The Council agreed that under this renewed framework 'youth work' is a broad term covering a large scope of activities of a social, cultural, educational or political nature both by, with and for young people. Increasingly, such activities also include sport and services for young people.
- A number of guiding principles should be observed in all policies and activities concerning youth work, namely the importance of promoting gender equality and combating all forms of discrimination, respecting the rights and observing the principles recognised, inter alia, in Articles 21 and 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, taking account of possible differences in the living

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 327, 24.11.2006, p. 30.

<sup>(2)</sup> Doc. EUCO 13/10.

<sup>(3)</sup> The eight fields are: education and training, employment and entrepreneurship, health and well-being, participation, voluntary activities, social inclusion, youth and the world, creativity and culture.

conditions, needs, aspirations, interests and attitudes of young people due to various factors and recognising all young people as a resource to society.

- The fight against poverty and social exclusion is one of the key commitments of the European Union and its Member States. Social exclusion damages the well-being of citizens and hampers their ability to express themselves and participate in society. The fight against poverty and social exclusion is to be pursued both within the European Union and externally, in accordance with the UN Millennium Development Goals.

#### ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

- In all the Member States, countless children and young people, youth workers and youth leaders coming from different backgrounds, participate in, benefit from or are active in a rich and diverse range of youth work activities. These activities can take place in many contexts, addressing different issues that affect their lives and the realities in which they live.
- Youth work takes place in the extra curricular area, as well as through specific leisure time activities, and is based on non-formal and informal learning processes and on voluntary participation. These activities and processes are self-managed, co-managed or managed under educational or pedagogical guidance by either professional or voluntary youth workers and youth leaders and can develop and be subject to changes caused by different dynamics.
- Youth work is organised and delivered in different ways (by youth-led organisations, organisations for youth, informal groups or through youth services and public authorities) and is given shape at local, regional, national and European level, dependent, e.g. of the following elements:
  - the community, historical, social and policy contexts where youth work takes place,
  - the aim of including and empowering all children and young people, especially those with fewer opportunities,
  - the involvement of youth workers and youth leaders,
  - the organisations, services or providers, whether they are governmental or non-governmental, youth-led or not,
  - the approach or method used taking into account the needs of young people.
- In many Member States local and regional authorities also play a key role in supporting and developing local and regional youth work.

#### RECOGNISE THAT:

- Young people are an integral part of an increasingly complex society. They are shaped by a variety of different influences and environments, the home, school, the workplace, peers and the media. In this context youth work can play an important role in young people's development.
- Youth work — which complements formal education settings — can offer considerable benefits for children and young people by providing a wide and diverse range of non-formal and informal learning opportunities as well as appropriate targeted approaches.
- Youth work invites young people to take responsibility and be accountable for their actions by giving them an active role in its development and implementation. Youth work can provide a comfortable, safe, inspirational and pleasant environment, in which all children and young people, either as individuals or as part of a group, can express themselves, learn from each other, meet each other, play, explore and experiment.
- In addition to this, youth work should provide the opportunity for young people to develop a wide range of different personal and professional skills, free from stereotypes as well as key competences that can contribute to modern society. Therefore it can play an important role in developing autonomy, empowerment and entrepreneurial spirit of young people.
- In transmitting universal values regarding human rights, democracy, peace, anti-racism, cultural diversity, solidarity, equality and sustainable development, youth work also can have added social value because it can:
  - promote social participation and responsibility, voluntary engagement and active citizenship,
  - strengthen community building and civil society at all levels (e.g. intergenerational and intercultural dialogue),
  - contribute to the development of young people's creativity, cultural and social awareness, entrepreneurship and innovation,
  - provide opportunities for the social inclusion of all children and young people,
  - reach young people with fewer opportunities through a variety of methods which are flexible and quickly adaptable.
- Youth work therefore plays different roles in society and can contribute to youth related policy areas, such as lifelong learning, social inclusion and employment.

— Youth work, whether it is undertaken by volunteers or professionals, has a considerable socio-economic potential — as it can produce economic activity, provides infrastructure, create economic benefits and increases (youth) employment. The labour market can benefit from the personal and professional skills and competences acquired through youth work by both participants as well as youth workers and youth leaders. Such skills and competences need to be sufficiently valued and effectively recognised.

— The Youth in Action programme provides an important contribution to the quality of youth work at all levels, as well as the development of competences among youth workers and youth leaders and the recognition of non-formal learning in youth work, by providing learning mobility experiences and networking for youth workers and youth leaders.

ACCORDINGLY AGREE THAT:

The following principles should be taken into account in implementing this Resolution:

— young people, youth organisations, youth workers and youth leaders, youth researchers, policymakers, other experts in the youth field should be involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of specific youth work initiatives at all levels,

— the roles and responsibilities of any actors involved within their respective spheres of competences, should be respected,

— better knowledge and understanding of youth work needs to be gathered and shared,

— instruments mentioned in the renewed framework should be fully used to integrate a youth work perspective and to implement specific youth work initiatives,

— youth work should pay particular attention to the involvement of children and young people in poverty or at risk of social exclusion.

AND THEREFORE INVITE THE MEMBER STATES TO:

— Promote different kinds of sustainable support for youth work, e.g. sufficient funding, resources or infrastructure. This also implies removing barriers to engaging in youth work and where appropriate create strategies on youth work.

— Support and develop the role of youth work in implementing the renewed framework, especially the contribution of youth work to the objectives in the different action fields.

— Involve, where appropriate, local and regional authorities and actors to play an important role in developing, supporting and implementing youth work.

INVITE THE COMMISSION TO:

— Develop a study to map the diversity, coverage and impact of youth work in the EU and to have a follow-up on youth work in the EU Youth report.

— Support European youth NGO as well as smaller initiatives to stimulate a strong European civil society and further youth participation in democratic life.

— Enhance the quality of youth work, the capacity building and competence development of youth workers and youth leaders and the recognition of non-formal learning in youth work, by providing learning mobility experiences for youth workers and youth leaders.

— Develop and support the development of user-friendly European tools (e.g. Youthpass) for both independent assessment and self-assessment, as well as instruments for the documentation of competences of youth workers and youth leaders which would help to recognise and evaluate the quality of youth work in Europe.

— Provide sufficient and appropriate European platforms such as databases, peer-learning activities, and conferences for the continuous exchange on innovative research, policies, approaches, practices and methods.

INVITE THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE SPHERES OF COMPETENCE TO:

— Create better conditions and more opportunities for the development, support and implementation of youth work at local, regional, national and European level.

— Fully acknowledge, raise awareness of, and reinforce the role of youth work in society.

— Enable youth work to further develop its quality.

- Support the development of new strategies or enhance existing ones for the capacity building of youth workers and youth leaders and to support civil society in the implementation of appropriate forms of training for youth workers and youth leaders.
- Identify different forms of youth work, competences and methods that youth workers and youth leaders share, in order to develop strategies for enhancing the quality and recognition of youth work.
- Promote the employability of youth workers and youth leaders and their mobility through a better knowledge of their qualifications and the recognition of the skills acquired from their experiences.
- Promote and support research in youth work and youth policy, including its historical dimension and its relevance for youth work policy today.
- Make sufficient information on youth work available and accessible via mechanisms like for instance European and national campaigns on youth work, and to enhance synergies and complementarity between initiatives of the European Union, the Council of Europe and other actors on local, regional, national and European level.
- Promote opportunities for exchange, cooperation and networking of youth workers and youth leaders, policymakers and researchers at local, regional, national, European and international level.
- Within the context of youth work, promote, where appropriate, the development of a systematic assessment of skills and competences required for any form of training aiming at acquiring knowledge and upgraded skills.

## ENCOURAGE CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVE IN THE FIELD OF YOUTH TO:

- Increase the accessibility of youth work for all children and young people, especially for those with fewer opportunities.
- Promote diverse forms of training of youth workers and youth leaders active in civil society in the field of youth in order to guarantee the quality of youth work.
- Evaluate existing youth work approaches, practices and methods and to continuously invest in their innovative development through new initiatives and activities based on the real life experiences of children, young people and youth workers and youth leaders.
- Exchange information and good practices, cooperate and network at local, regional, national and European level.

## STRESS THE IMPORTANCE:

In the context of the implementation of a competitive, inclusive and sustainable Europe 2020 Strategy:

- of recognising the crucial role of youth work as a provider of non-formal learning opportunities to all young people,
- of ensuring that youth work is fully incorporated into the Youth on the Move initiative as well as other programmes/policies that will equip all young people, in particular those with fewer opportunities, with the relevant skills and key competences needed for the society and economy of 2020 and beyond.

## ANNEX

**Political background**

Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, of 14 December 2000, on Social Inclusion of Young People <sup>(1)</sup>.

Resolution of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments, meeting within the Council, of 14 February 2002 on the added value of voluntary activity for young people in the context of the development of Community action on youth <sup>(2)</sup>.

Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, of 28 May 2004 on the Social Integration with regard to Young People <sup>(3)</sup>.

Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the recognition of the value of non-formal and informal learning within the European youth field <sup>(4)</sup>.

Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, of 22 May 2008 on the participation of young people with fewer opportunities.

Council recommendation of 20 November 2008 on the mobility of young volunteers across the European Union <sup>(5)</sup>.

Decision No 1098/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2008 on the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion (2010) <sup>(6)</sup>.

Council Decision 2010/37/EC of 27 November 2009 on the European Year of Voluntary Activities Promoting Active Citizenship (2011) <sup>(7)</sup>.

Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the active inclusion of young people: combating unemployment and poverty <sup>(8)</sup>.

Council conclusions of 11 May 2010 on competences supporting Lifelong Learning and the 'new skills for new jobs' initiative <sup>(9)</sup>.

Communication from the Commission 'Europe 2020' — A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth <sup>(10)</sup>.

Resolution on the youth policy of the Council of Europe <sup>(11)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 374, 28.12.2000, p. 5.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 50, 23.2.2002, p. 3.

<sup>(3)</sup> Doc. 9601/04.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ C 168, 20.7.2006, p. 1.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ C 319, 13.12.2008, p. 8.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ L 298, 7.11.2008, p. 20.

<sup>(7)</sup> OJ L 17, 22.1.2010, p. 43.

<sup>(8)</sup> OJ C 137, 27.5.2010, p. 1.

<sup>(9)</sup> OJ C 135, 26.5.2010, p. 8.

<sup>(10)</sup> COM(2010) 2020 Final.

<sup>(11)</sup> Resolution CM/Res (2008)23. Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 25 November 2008 at the 1042nd Meeting of the Ministers' Deputies.

## II

(Information)

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES  
AND AGENCIES

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the TFEU

## Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2010/C 327/02)

Date of adoption of the decision	26.5.2010
Reference number of State Aid	N 726/09
Member State	Belgium
Region	—
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Projet d'aide à la restructuration des activités fret de la SNCB Voorgenomen herstructureringssteun ten behoeve van de goederenactiviteiten van de NMBS
Legal basis	Décisions des conseils d'administration de la SNCB Holding et de la SNCB Beslissingen van de raad van bestuur van NMBS-holding en NMBS
Type of measure	Individual aid
Objective	Restructuring of firms in difficulty
Form of aid	Other forms of equity intervention
Budget	Overall budget: EUR 355 million
Intensity	—
Duration (period)	30.6.2010-31.12.2014
Economic sectors	Railways
Name and address of the granting authority	Ministère de la Fonction publique et des entreprises publiques Rue Royale 180 1000 Bruxelles BELGIQUE  Ministerie van Ambtenarenzaken en Overheidsbedrijven Koningstraat 180 1000 Brussel BELGIË
Other information	—



The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/community\\_law/state\\_aids/state\\_aids\\_texts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/community_law/state_aids/state_aids_texts_en.htm)

Date of adoption of the decision	30.9.2010
Reference number of State Aid	N 67/10
Member State	Lithuania
Region	—
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	JSC Toksika
Legal basis	2007–2013 m. Sanglaudos skatinimo veiksmų programa – Lietuvos Respublikos Vyriausybės 2008 m. liepos 23 d. nutarimas Nr. 787 „Dėl Sanglaudos skatinimo veiksmų programos priedo patvirtinimo“ – Aplinkos ministro įsakymo projektas dėl finansavimo sąlygų aprašo patvirtinimo priemonei „Atliekų tvarkymo sistemos sukūrimas“
Type of measure	Individual aid
Objective	Regional development
Form of aid	Direct grant
Budget	Overall budget: LTL 5,711 million
Intensity	50 %
Duration (period)	1.12.2010-31.12.2011
Economic sectors	Service activities
Name and address of the granting authority	Lietuvos Respublikos Aplinkos ministerija A. Jakšto g. 4/9 LT-01105 Vilnius LIETUVA/LITHUANIA
Other information	—

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/community\\_law/state\\_aids/state\\_aids\\_texts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/community_law/state_aids/state_aids_texts_en.htm)

Date of adoption of the decision	21.10.2010
Reference number of State Aid	N 120/10
Member State	Spain
Region	Andalucia
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Ayudas para la promoción del tejido profesional del Flamenco en Andalucía

Legal basis	Proyecto de Orden por la que se establecen las bases reguladoras de la convocatoria de concesión por la Empresa Pública de Gestión de Programas Culturales, de subvenciones en el año ... para la promoción del tejido profesional del Flamenco en Andalucía
Type of measure	Aid scheme
Objective	Culture
Form of aid	Direct grant
Budget	Annual budget: EUR 0,6 million Overall budget: EUR 3,6 million
Intensity	100 %
Duration (period)	2010-2015
Economic sectors	Recreational, cultural sporting activities
Name and address of the granting authority	Junta de Andalucía Plaza de la Contratación, 3 41071 Sevilla ESPAÑA
Other information	—

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/community\\_law/state\\_aids/state\\_aids\\_texts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/community_law/state_aids/state_aids_texts_en.htm)

Date of adoption of the decision	19.10.2010
Reference number of State Aid	N 286/10
Member State	Finland
Region	Pohjois-Pohjanmaa
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Finavia Oyj/Abp (Oulun lentoasema/Uleåborgs flygplats)
Legal basis	Valtionavustuslaki 27.7.2001/688/Statsunderstödslag 27.7.2001/688
Type of measure	Individual aid
Objective	Sectoral development, Regional development
Form of aid	Direct grant
Budget	Overall budget: EUR 12 million
Intensity	57 %
Duration (period)	1.9.2010-31.12.2011
Economic sectors	Air transport

Name and address of the granting authority	Liikenne- ja viestintäministeriö PL 31 FI-00023 Valtioneuvosto SUOMI/FINLAND  Kommunikationsministeriet PB 31 FI-00023 Statsrådet SUOMI/FINLAND
Other information	—

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/community\\_law/state\\_aids/state\\_aids\\_texts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/community_law/state_aids/state_aids_texts_en.htm)

Date of adoption of the decision	10.11.2010
Reference number of State Aid	N 420/10
Member State	Spain
Region	País Vasco
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Ayudas para la realización, durante el ejercicio 2010, de programas o actividades culturales particulares de ámbito supramunicipal
Legal basis	Orden de 10 de Diciembre de 2009, de la Consejera de Cultura, por la que se regula el régimen de concesión de subvenciones para la realización, durante el ejercicio 2010, de programas o actividades culturales particulares de ámbito supramunicipal
Type of measure	Aid scheme
Objective	Culture
Form of aid	Direct grant
Budget	Overall budget: EUR 664 500
Intensity	60 %
Duration (period)	Until 31.12.2010
Economic sectors	Recreational, cultural sporting activities
Name and address of the granting authority	Departamento de Cultura del Gobierno Vasco C/ Donostia, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz Álava — País Vasco ESPAÑA
Other information	—

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/community\\_law/state\\_aids/state\\_aids\\_texts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/community_law/state_aids/state_aids_texts_en.htm)

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case COMP/M.6011 — ATP/PFA/Folksam Sak/Folksam LIV/CPD/FIH Group)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2010/C 327/03)

On 29 November 2010, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>) under document number 32010M6011. EUR-Lex is the on-line access to the European law.

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**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case COMP/M.5880 — Shell/Topaz/JV)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2010/C 327/04)

On 4 November 2010, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the Competition website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
  - in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>) under document number 32010M5880. EUR-Lex is the on-line access to the European law.
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## IV

(Notices)

## NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

## COUNCIL

**Council conclusions of 19 November 2010 on education for sustainable development**

(2010/C 327/05)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

HAVING REGARD TO:

The EU Sustainable Development Strategy, first adopted in Gothenburg in 2001 <sup>(1)</sup> and subsequently reviewed in 2006 and 2009 <sup>(2)</sup>, which provides a framework for a long-term vision of sustainability in which economic growth, social cohesion and environmental protection go hand in hand, and which highlights the key role of education as a prerequisite for promoting the behavioural changes and providing all citizens with the key competences needed to achieve sustainable development.

The United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), which seeks to integrate the principles, values and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning <sup>(3)</sup>, and the 2009 UNESCO world conference on education for sustainable development held in Bonn, which — in its concluding declaration — agreed that investment in such education is an investment in the future and indeed, in some cases, a life-saving measure <sup>(4)</sup>.

The Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 December 2006 on key competences for lifelong learning <sup>(5)</sup>, which calls on Member States to ensure that each citizen has the key competences to adapt flexibly to a changing world in which everything is highly interconnected. The eight key competences outlined are mutually supportive and underpinned by skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, initiative taking and decision making, all of which are essential for achieving the objectives of sustainable

development. Of particular relevance in this context are basic competences in science and technology, as well as social and civic competences.

The strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training ('ET 2020') <sup>(6)</sup>, which emphasises that education and training have a crucial role to play in meeting the many socio-economic, demographic, environmental and technological challenges facing Europe and its citizens today and in the years ahead.

The Europe 2020 strategy for jobs and growth <sup>(7)</sup>, which seeks to turn the EU into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy capable of delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion, and to which education and training are highlighted as having a major contribution to make.

RECOGNISES THAT:

1. The European Union faces a considerable number of inter-linked challenges in the early 21st century, including the economic and social consequences of the global financial crisis, climate change, declining water and energy resources, shrinking biodiversity, threats to food security and health risks.
2. In a continuously changing world, all European citizens should be equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to understand and deal with the challenges and complexities of modern day life, whilst taking due account of the environmental, social, cultural and economic implications, as well as to assume their global responsibilities.

<sup>(1)</sup> European Council conclusions of 15-16 June 2001 (SN 200/01).

<sup>(2)</sup> Docs. 10917/06 and 16818/09 respectively.

<sup>(3)</sup> [www.unesco.org/eu/esd](http://www.unesco.org/eu/esd)

<sup>(4)</sup> [www.esd-world-conference-2009.org](http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org)

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ L 394, 30.12.2006.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ C 119, 28.5.2009.

<sup>(7)</sup> European Council conclusions of 25-26 March 2010 (EUCO 7/1/10 REV 1).

3. The 2010 report on Skills for Green Jobs <sup>(1)</sup> emphasises that every job in future will need to contribute to a continuous improvement in resource efficiency, and that developing a low-carbon economy will depend more on improving existing skills and integrating sustainable development concerns into existing areas of learning, than on fostering specialised 'green skills'.
4. Education for sustainable development (ESD) in a lifelong learning perspective is essential for the achievement of a sustainable society and is therefore desirable at all levels of formal education and training, as well as in non-formal and informal learning.

EMPHASISES THAT:

1. ESD has an important contribution to make to the successful implementation of both the EU Strategy for Sustainable Development and the new Europe 2020 strategy.
2. The most important role for ESD is to equip individuals and groups with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to make conscious choices aimed at achieving and preserving a world which both they and future generations will deem fit to live and work in. Educational institutions, local communities, civil society and employers are all key players in developing and promoting such competences.
3. ESD fundamentally concerns the way we think about our complex world and the way we behave. It promotes values, principles and practices that help people to respond effectively and confidently to current and new challenges. It therefore has implications for education and training at all levels which may go beyond simply including sustainable development as another subject in the curriculum.
4. Sustainability can play an important role in national lifelong learning strategies and can be used as a tool to enhance quality at all levels of education and training.

CONSIDERS THAT:

1. Education and training are indispensable to achieving a more sustainable Europe and world. ESD should be regarded as crucial in the process of lifelong learning and should, where appropriate, be mainstreamed into all levels and aspects of education and training, in order to strengthen the capacity of citizens to cope with imminent unpredictable problems and to find long-term solutions for these in many different situations throughout life.
2. The three fundamental pillars of sustainable development — economic, social and environmental — should be addressed in a balanced and integrated manner.

3. In many Member States, aspects of ESD already feature in environmental, global, health, peace, citizenship, human rights, consumer, financial and development education constituting entry points for integrating sustainable development into a lifelong learning context.
4. Increasing public awareness and understanding about sustainable development and ESD is essential.
5. ESD should be built on value-based and interdisciplinary learning which promotes systems thinking and teaching, and which develops new knowledge, skills and attitudes. It should emphasise creative thinking, innovation and the long-term perspective, particularly our responsibility towards future generations. ESD is not a stand-alone subject, but more a set of underlying principles and values such as justice, equity, tolerance, sufficiency and responsibility <sup>(2)</sup> to be conveyed more transversally. ESD can also play a role in developing the competences required to enhance employability. Since skills relating to sustainable development are best acquired through personal experiences, the learning process should be oriented as far as possible towards inclusive learning, action and motivation.
6. Given its complex and comprehensive nature, ESD can be particularly useful in developing the transversal key competences of learners [...].
7. When being implemented, ESD should be tailored to each level of education, taking into account the specific context. Pre-primary schools can begin by fostering basic values, attitudes and knowledge in children, which can then serve as the foundation for further learning about sustainability. At primary and lower secondary level, ESD can focus on awareness-raising and the development of key competences, and be adapted to take account of the particular context and subsequent stages of learning. In VET and higher education, ESD should be strengthened and attention focused on developing more specific skills and the competences needed within various occupations, as well as on addressing issues such as responsible decision-making by individuals and communities and corporate social responsibility.
8. Teacher education and in-service training should be given a crucial role in shaping a perspective on ESD and determining how concretely to implement this in schools, VET and higher education institutions. Depending on what they usually teach, teachers and trainers at all levels of education and training will face a variety of specific pedagogical challenges in teaching a transversal subject such as ESD, and will therefore require appropriate training.

<sup>(1)</sup> Cedefop: Skills for Green Jobs, Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2010.

<sup>(2)</sup> See Bonn Declaration, paragraph 8 ([http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/fileadmin/download/ESD2009\\_BonnDeclaration080409.pdf](http://www.esd-world-conference-2009.org/fileadmin/download/ESD2009_BonnDeclaration080409.pdf)).

9. Developing a 'whole-school' approach to ESD can help to harness the motivation and commitment of all pupils and students, to develop their critical thinking and to improve their educational attainment in general. Educational institutions at all levels should themselves strive to be sustainable organisations and to act as role models, by integrating the principles of sustainable development in policy and practice, i.e. through energy-saving, building and working with natural resources, and developing a sustainable purchasing and consumer policy. In a school context, this requires the active participation of all stakeholders: school leaders, teachers, pupils, the school board, administrative and supportive staff, parents, NGOs, the local community and business.

ACCORDINGLY INVITES THE MEMBER STATES TO:

Take appropriate measures at the relevant level of responsibility — local, regional or national — in order to encourage the further development and implementation of ESD and its integration into the education and training system at all levels, in non-formal and informal learning just as in formal learning. In particular, these measures may include:

(a) Ensuring that policy, regulatory, institutional and operational frameworks support ESD, and in particular that:

- ESD becomes a feature of national lifelong learning strategies aimed at citizens' personal, social and professional development;
- ESD is, where appropriate, mainstreamed into curricula;
- interdisciplinary and cross-curricular approaches are developed and implemented at all levels of education to address the challenges of sustainability;
- a 'whole-school' approach to ESD is actively promoted and supported, including by removing barriers to institutions which are pursuing the sustainable use of their resources.

(b) Equipping teachers, trainers, school staff and school leaders with the awareness, knowledge and competences required to promote and include the principles underlying ESD in their approaches to teaching and management, particularly by:

- raising awareness among teachers, trainers and school leaders at all levels of education and training of the importance of ESD, and of the benefits of using this as a particularly useful tool in promoting transversal key competences;
- ensuring that teachers and trainers are adequately equipped to teach complex issues linked to ESD, through initial education as well as in-service training,

and providing them with appropriate and up-to-date tools and learning materials for ESD;

- encouraging multi- and interdisciplinary cooperation between teachers in the same establishment to promote teaching and learning on cross-cutting ESD issues;
- promoting networking, including online networking, among teachers in different establishments to ensure the continued development of, and exchange of new ideas on, ESD;
- fostering cooperation with — and the greater participation of — parents, the local community and all the other relevant stakeholders.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COMPETENCES, TO:

Support education for sustainable development and promote these Council conclusions by:

- (i) pursuing ESD within both the EU Sustainable Development Strategy and the Europe 2020 Strategy;
- (ii) promoting research on and knowledge of ESD, especially in areas where there is little experience or the evidence base is weak, such as VET and higher education;
- (iii) promoting networking between educational institutions on the issue of ESD, making optimum use of existing networks and strengthening cooperation on ESD at all levels by building partnerships, including by encouraging:
  - national and cross-border cooperation among schools;
  - partnerships between educational institutions, business and/or NGOs;
  - networks of researchers of ESD;
- (iv) identifying and registering good practice in a compendium of ESD on the Knowledge System for Lifelong Learning (KSLLL) website <sup>(1)</sup>;
- (v) addressing ESD issues among the priorities of the Lifelong Learning programme and other relevant existing or future programmes;
- (vi) making optimum use of the 2011 European Year of Volunteering with a view to focusing on education for sustainable development and partnerships between educational institutions, business and NGOs, as well as on strengthening the visibility of existing good practices in voluntary activities in this field;

<sup>(1)</sup> www.kslll.net

(vii) considering including ESD among the priority areas for the next cycle of the 'ET2020' strategic framework in education and training.

INVITES THE COMMISSION TO:

Contribute to Member States efforts to support education for sustainable development and promote these Council conclusions by:

(i) organising peer learning activities on specific aspects of ESD, such as teacher training, the 'whole school' approach, and partnerships for ESD, with a view to developing a policy handbook and guidelines for educational establishments and teachers;

(ii) strengthening cooperation with other international institutions, in particular UNESCO and UNECE, in the field of ESD.

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# EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## Euro exchange rates <sup>(1)</sup>

3 December 2010

(2010/C 327/06)

### 1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,3246	AUD	Australian dollar	1,3508
JPY	Japanese yen	110,86	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,3269
DKK	Danish krone	7,4529	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	10,2846
GBP	Pound sterling	0,84800	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,7519
SEK	Swedish krona	9,1265	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,7315
CHF	Swiss franc	1,3143	KRW	South Korean won	1 503,92
ISK	Iceland króna		ZAR	South African rand	9,1605
NOK	Norwegian krone	8,0050	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	8,8262
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,3775
CZK	Czech koruna	25,018	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	11 924,57
EEK	Estonian kroon	15,6466	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,1698
HUF	Hungarian forint	278,03	PHP	Philippine peso	58,062
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4528	RUB	Russian rouble	41,4745
LVL	Latvian lats	0,7097	THB	Thai baht	39,811
PLN	Polish zloty	3,9952	BRL	Brazilian real	2,2530
RON	Romanian leu	4,3073	MXN	Mexican peso	16,3389
TRY	Turkish lira	1,9813	INR	Indian rupee	59,7360

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

## NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/07)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	2.7.2010
Duration	2.7.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	The Netherlands
Stock or Group of stocks	HKE/571214
Species	Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> )
Zone	VI and VII; EU and international waters of Vb; international waters of XII and XIV
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	—

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/08)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	20.8.2010
Duration	20.8.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	Spain
Stock or Group of stocks	GFB/89-
Species	Forkbeards ( <i>Phycis blennoides</i> )
Zone	Community waters and waters not under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of third countries of VIII and IX
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	532287

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/09)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	1.9.2010
Duration	1.9.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	France
Stock or Group of stocks	GHL/2A-C46
Species	Greenland halibut ( <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> )
Zone	EU waters of IIa and IV; EU and international waters of Vb and VI
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	573093

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/10)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	30.8.2010
Duration	30.8.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	Sweden
Stock or Group of stocks	COD/2A3AX4
Species	Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )
Zone	EU waters of IIa and IV; that part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	541780

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/11)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	24.2.2010
Duration	24.2.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	Denmark
Stock or Group of stocks	DGS/2AC4-C
Species	Spurdog/dogfish ( <i>Squalus acanthias</i> )
Zone	EU waters of IIa and IV
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	605704

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/12)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	22.9.2010
Duration	22.9.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	Finland
Stock or Group of stocks	COD/3B23.; COD/3C22.; COD/3D24.
Species	Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )
Zone	EC waters of Subdivisions 22-24
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	608986

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

**Information communicated by Member States regarding closure of fisheries**

(2010/C 327/13)

In accordance with Article 35(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, a decision has been taken to close the fishery as set down in the following table:

Date and time of closure	22.9.2010
Duration	22.9.2010-31.12.2010
Member State	Portugal
Stock or Group of stocks	GFB/89-
Species	Forkbeards ( <i>Phycis blennoides</i> )
Zone	Community waters and waters not under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of third countries of VIII and IX
Type(s) of fishing vessels	—
Reference number	614287

Web link to the decision of the Member State:

[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/tacs/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs/index_en.htm)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.



## V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON  
COMMERCIAL POLICY

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of vinyl acetate originating  
in the United States of America**

(2010/C 327/14)

The European Commission ('the Commission') has received a complaint pursuant to Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community<sup>(1)</sup> ('the basic Regulation'), alleging that imports of vinyl acetate, originating in the United States of America, are being dumped and are thereby causing material injury to the Union industry.

**1. Complaint**

The complaint was lodged on 22 October 2010 by the Union producer Ineos Oxide Ltd ('the complainant'), representing a major proportion, in this case more than 25 % of the total Union industry production of vinyl acetate.

**2. Product under investigation**

The product subject to this investigation is vinyl acetate ('the product under investigation').

**3. Allegation of dumping<sup>(2)</sup>**

The product allegedly being dumped is the product under investigation, originating in the United States of America ('the country concerned'), currently falling within CN code 2915 32 00. This CN code is given for information only.

The allegation of dumping is based on a comparison of domestic prices with the export prices (at ex-works level) of the product under investigation when sold for export to the Union.

On this basis the dumping margin calculated is significant for the exporting country concerned.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51.

<sup>(2)</sup> Dumping is the practice of selling a product for export ('the product concerned') at a price below its 'normal value'. The normal value is usually taken to be a comparable price for the 'like' product on the domestic market of the exporting country. The term 'like product' is interpreted to mean a product which is alike in all respects to the product concerned or, in the absence of such a product, a product which closely resembles the product.

**4. Allegation of injury**

The complainant has provided evidence that imports of the product under investigation from the country concerned have increased overall in absolute terms and have increased in terms of market share.

The *prima facie* evidence provided by the complainant shows that the volume and the prices of the imported product under investigation have, among other consequences, had a negative impact on the quantities sold and the market share held by the Union industry, resulting in substantial adverse effects on the overall performance, the financial situation and the employment situation of the Union industry.

**5. Procedure**

Having determined, after consulting the Advisory Committee, that the complaint has been lodged by or on behalf of the Union industry and that there is sufficient evidence to justify the initiation of a proceeding, the Commission hereby initiates an investigation pursuant to Article 5 of the basic Regulation.

The investigation will determine whether the product under investigation originating in the country concerned is being dumped and whether this dumping has caused injury to the Union industry. If the conclusions are affirmative, the investigation will examine whether the imposition of measures would not be against Union interest.

**5.1. Procedure for the determination of dumping**

Exporting producers<sup>(3)</sup> of the product under investigation from the country concerned are invited to participate in the Commission investigation.

<sup>(3)</sup> An exporting producer is any company in the countries concerned which produces and exports the product under investigation to the Union market, either directly or via third party, including any of its related companies involved in the production, domestic sales or exports of the product concerned. Non-producing exporters are normally not entitled to an individual duty rate.

### 5.1.1. Investigating exporting producers

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation with regard to exporting producers in the country concerned, the Commission will send questionnaires to the known exporting producers in the country concerned, to any known association of exporting producers, and to the authorities of the country concerned. All exporting producers and associations of exporting producers are invited to contact the Commission immediately, by fax or by e-mail, but no later than 15 days after the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified, in order to make themselves known and to request a questionnaire.

The exporting producers and the associations of exporting producers must submit the completed questionnaire within 37 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified.

The completed questionnaire will contain information on, inter alia, the structure of the exporting producer's company(ies), the activities of the company(ies) in relation to the product under investigation, the cost of production, the sales of the product under investigation on the domestic market of the country concerned and the sales of the product under investigation to the Union.

### 5.1.2. Investigating unrelated importers <sup>(4)</sup> <sup>(5)</sup>

In view of the potentially large number of unrelated importers involved in this proceeding and in order to complete the investigation within the statutory time limits, the Commission may limit to a reasonable number the unrelated importers that will be investigated by selecting a sample (this process is also referred to as 'sampling'). The sampling will be carried out in accordance with Article 17 of the basic Regulation.

In order to enable the Commission to decide whether sampling is necessary and, if so, to select a sample, all unrelated importers, or representatives acting on their behalf, are hereby requested to make themselves known to the Commission. These parties should do so within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified, by providing the Commission with the following information on their company or companies:

- name, address, e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers and contact person,
- the precise activities of the company with regard to the product under investigation,

<sup>(4)</sup> Only importers not related to exporting producers can be sampled. Importers that are related to exporting producers have to fill in Annex 1 to the questionnaire for these exporting producers. For the definition of a related party see footnote 6.

<sup>(5)</sup> The data provided by unrelated importers may also be used in relation to aspects of this investigation other than the determination of dumping.

- the total turnover during the period from 1 October 2009 to 30 September 2010, which will be the investigation period of the imported product under investigation originating in the country concerned,
- the volume in tonnes and value in euro of imports into and resales made on the Union market during the period from 1 October 2009 to 30 September 2010,
- the names and the precise activities of all related companies <sup>(6)</sup> involved in the production and/or sales of the product under investigation,
- any other relevant information that would assist the Commission in the selection of the sample.

By providing the above information, the company agrees to its possible inclusion in the sample. If the company is selected to be part of the sample, this will imply completing a questionnaire and accepting a visit at its premises in order to verify its response ('on-spot verification'). If the company indicates that it does not agree to its possible inclusion in the sample, it will be deemed not to have cooperated in the investigation. The Commission findings for non-cooperating importers are based on the facts available and the result may be less favourable to that party than if it had cooperated.

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for the selection of the sample of unrelated importers, the Commission may also contact any known associations of importers.

All interested parties wishing to submit any other relevant information regarding the selection of the sample, excluding the information requested above, must do so within 21 days of the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified.

If a sample is necessary, the importers may be selected based on the largest representative volume of sales in the Union which can reasonably be investigated within the time available. All known unrelated importers and associations of importers will be notified by the Commission of the companies selected to be in the sample.

<sup>(6)</sup> In accordance with Article 143 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 concerning the implementation of the Community Customs Code, persons shall be deemed to be related only if: (a) they are officers or directors of one another's businesses; (b) they are legally recognised partners in business; (c) they are employer and employee; (d) any person directly or indirectly owns, controls or holds 5 % or more of the outstanding voting stock or shares of both of them; (e) one of them directly or indirectly controls the other; (f) both of them are directly or indirectly controlled by a third person; (g) together they directly or indirectly control a third person; or (h) they are members of the same family. Persons shall be deemed to be members of the same family only if they stand in any of the following relationships to one another: (i) husband and wife; (ii) parent and child; (iii) brother and sister (whether by whole or half blood); (iv) grandparent and grandchild; (v) uncle or aunt and nephew or niece; (vi) parent-in-law and son-in-law or daughter-in-law; (vii) brother-in-law and sister-in-law (OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1). In this context 'person' means any natural or legal person.

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation, the Commission will send questionnaires to the sampled unrelated importers and to any known association of importers. These parties must submit a completed questionnaire within 37 days from the date of the notification of the sample selection, unless otherwise specified. The completed questionnaire will contain information on, inter alia, the structure of their company(ies), the activities of the company(ies) in relation to the product under investigation and on the sales of the product under investigation.

## 5.2. Procedure for the determination of injury

Injury means material injury to the Union industry, or threat of material injury to the industry, or material retardation of the establishment of such an industry. A determination of injury is based on positive evidence and involves an objective determination of the volume of dumped imports, their effect on prices on the Union market and the consequent impact of those imports on the Union industry. In order to establish whether the Union industry is materially injured, Union producers of the product under investigation are invited to participate in the Commission investigation.

### 5.2.1. Investigating Union producers

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation with regard to Union producers the Commission will send questionnaires to the known Union producers and to any known association of Union producers. All Union producers and associations of Union producers are invited to contact the Commission immediately by fax or by e-mail, but no later than 15 days after the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified, in order to make themselves known and request a questionnaire.

The Union producers and the associations of Union producers must submit the completed questionnaire within 37 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified. The completed questionnaire will contain information on, inter alia, the structure of their company(ies), the financial situation of the company(ies), the activities of the company(ies) in relation to the product under investigation, the cost of production and the sales of the product under investigation.

## 5.3. Procedure for the assessment of Union interest

Should the existence of dumping and injury caused thereby be established, a decision will be reached as to whether the adoption of anti-dumping measures would be against the Union interest pursuant to Article 21 of the basic Regulation. Union producers, importers and their representative associations, users and their representative user organisations and representative consumer organisations are invited to make themselves known within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified. In order to participate in the investigation, the representative consumer organisations have to demonstrate,

within the same deadline, that there is an objective link between their activities and the product under investigation.

Parties that make themselves known within the above deadline may provide the Commission with information on whether the imposition of measures would not be against Union interest within 37 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, unless otherwise specified. This information may be provided either in a free format or by completing a questionnaire prepared by the Commission. In any case, information submitted pursuant to Article 21 will only be taken into account if supported by factual evidence at the time of submission.

## 5.4. Other written submissions

Subject to the provisions of this notice, all interested parties are hereby invited to make their views known, submit information and provide supporting evidence. Unless otherwise specified, this information and supporting evidence should reach the Commission within 37 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

## 5.5. Possibility to be heard by the Commission investigation services

All interested parties may request to be heard by the Commission investigation services. Any request to be heard should be made in writing and should specify the reasons for the request. For hearings on issues pertaining to the initial stage of the investigation the request must be submitted within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. Thereafter, a request to be heard should be submitted within the specific deadlines set by the Commission in its communication with the parties.

## 5.6. Procedure for making written submissions and sending completed questionnaires and correspondence

All submissions, including information submitted for the selection of the sample, completed questionnaires and updates thereof, made by interested parties must be made in writing in both paper and electronic format, and must indicate the name, address, e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers of the interested party. If an interested party cannot provide its submissions and requests in electronic format for technical reasons, it must immediately inform the Commission.

All written submissions, including the information requested in this notice, completed questionnaires and correspondence provided by interested parties for which confidential treatment is requested shall be labelled 'Limited' <sup>(7)</sup>.

<sup>(7)</sup> This document is a confidential document pursuant to Article 19 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51) and Article 6 of the WTO Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994 (Anti-Dumping Agreement). It is also a document protected pursuant to Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

Interested parties providing 'Limited' information are required to furnish non-confidential summaries of it pursuant to Article 19(2) of the basic Regulation, which will be labelled 'For inspection by interested parties'. These summaries should be sufficiently detailed to permit a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information submitted in confidence. If an interested party providing confidential information does not furnish a non-confidential summary of it in the requested format and quality, such confidential information may be disregarded.

Commission address for correspondence:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Trade  
Directorate H  
Office: N-105 04/092  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË  
Fax +32 22956505

## 6. Non-cooperation

In cases where any interested party refuses access to or does not provide the necessary information within the time limits, or significantly impedes the investigation, provisional or final findings, affirmative or negative, may be made on the basis of facts available, in accordance with Article 18 of the basic Regulation.

Where it is found that any interested party has supplied false or misleading information, the information may be disregarded and use may be made of facts available.

If an interested party does not cooperate or cooperates only partially and findings are therefore based on facts available in accordance with Article 18 of the basic Regulation, the result may be less favourable to that party than if it had cooperated.

## 7. Hearing Officer

Interested parties may request the intervention of the Hearing Officer of Trade DG. The Hearing Officer acts as an interface between the interested parties and the Commission investigation services. The Hearing Officer reviews requests for access to the

file, disputes on the confidentiality of documents, requests for extension of time limits and requests by third parties to be heard. The Hearing Officer may organise a hearing with an individual interested party and mediate to ensure that the interested parties' rights of defence are being fully exercised.

A request for a hearing with the Hearing Officer should be made in writing and should specify the reasons for the request. For hearings on issues pertaining to the initial stage of the investigation the request must be submitted within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. Thereafter, a request to be heard must be submitted within specific deadlines set by the Commission in its communication with the parties.

The Hearing Officer will also provide opportunities for a hearing involving parties to take place which would allow different views to be presented and rebuttal arguments offered on issues pertaining, among others, to dumping, injury, causal link and Union interest. Such a hearing would, as a rule, take place at the latest at the end of the fourth week following the disclosure of provisional findings.

For further information and contact details interested parties may consult the Hearing Officer's web pages on Trade DG's website ([http://ec.europa.eu/trade/issues/respectrules/ho/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/trade/issues/respectrules/ho/index_en.htm)).

## 8. Schedule of the investigation

The investigation will be concluded, according to Article 6(9) of the basic Regulation within 15 months of the date of the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. According to Article 7(1) of the basic Regulation, provisional measures may be imposed no later than 9 months from the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

## 9. Processing of personal data

Any personal data collected in this investigation will be treated in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data <sup>(8)</sup>.

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<sup>(8)</sup> OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1.





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