



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 6 June 2001**

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**LIMITE**

**ELARG 144**

**OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

from :	Secretariat
to :	Council
Subject :	Enlargement

Delegations will find annexed draft Council conclusions on enlargement as agreed by COREPER on 6 June 2001. The draft will be complemented later concerning the principles of negotiations, for which there is a placeholder in the text.

**Draft**  
**Conclusions of the General Affairs Council**  
**11 June 2001**

**Enlargement**

The Council reconfirms the historic importance of the enlargement process and the priority that it attaches to its success.

The Council notes with satisfaction that the strategy for the accession negotiations endorsed by the Nice European Council has brought about a qualitative change and new impetus to the enlargement process.

The strategy has paved the way for significant breakthroughs in key negotiating chapters. The objectives set out in the road map for the first half of 2001 have been met. The Council welcomes the Commission's contribution to these achievements.

The Council notes in particular that the EU has defined its position on the nine chapters assigned for the period of the Swedish Presidency in the road map, including complex issues such as Freedom of Movement for Persons and Free Movement of Capital. This has permitted the provisional closure of the negotiations in most of these chapters. A major part of the accession negotiations on Environment and within the area of the Internal Market has now been provisionally concluded. In addition, a number of other negotiating chapters have also been dealt with and in several cases provisionally closed.

The Council furthermore notes with satisfaction that, in accordance with the conclusions of the Feira European Council, negotiations in all areas of the *acquis* have been opened with several candidate countries that started negotiations in 2000. Catch-up has thus been made possible.

The Council is determined to build upon these achievements and to pursue the accession negotiations during the Belgian and Spanish Presidencies in accordance with the road map. It calls on the Commission to present Draft Common Positions accordingly.

The Council appreciates the important efforts made by the candidate countries, including in the context of the pre-accession strategy, for meeting the accession criteria. Progress in the negotiations in accordance with the road map depends on them keeping up these efforts, with particular emphasis on the implementation and enforcement of the *acquis* and strengthening of administrative capacity. The EU will continue to closely monitor progress in this respect.

The Council reiterates that all candidates will continue to be judged on the basis of their own merits. The principle of differentiation remains a cornerstone of the accession negotiations. In this context the Council takes note of the monitoring reports put forward by the Commission and welcomes the candidate countries' progress towards accession.

The Council welcomes the Commission's information note on road transport market integration in the context of enlargement, which has provided a useful basis for discussions on options in this area. The Council also welcomes the Commission's information note on food safety in the context of enlargement. It looks forward to receiving, in the context of the respective negotiating chapters, Draft Common Positions from the Commission to enable the EU to define its position as soon as possible in these fields.

The Council furthermore notes the report on nuclear safety in the context of enlargement. It reconfirms the objective of a high level of nuclear safety in the candidate countries, as underlined by the European Council.

#### **[Placeholder – principles of negotiations]**

The Council will, as agreed by the Stockholm European Council, develop ways and means to actively involve the candidate countries in the goals and procedures of the Lisbon strategy and invites the Commission to present proposals to this end.

The Council recalls the progress made on the implementation of the pre-accession strategy for Turkey. It welcomes the adoption by the Turkish Government of its National Programme for the Adoption of the *Acquis* as an important element in the implementation of the Accession Partnership, which indicates the priority areas for Turkey's membership preparations. The EU welcomes the open and frank discussion within the enhanced political dialogue, but remains concerned with regard to the human rights situation and urges Turkey to take concrete measures to implement the priorities of the Accession Partnership. The EU welcomes the new economic programme and the additional assistance provided by the IMF and the World Bank. This financial support, coupled with the vigorous implementation of the programme, should stabilise the economic situation in Turkey and create the conditions for recovery.