



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 7 November 2008 (07.11)
(OR. fr)**

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NOTE

from: Presidency
to: Council

Subject: *European Council meeting (11 and 12 December 2008)*
– *Annotated draft agenda*

In accordance with Article 2(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, acting on a Presidency proposal, the General Affairs and External Relations Council is to draw up an annotated draft agenda at least four weeks before the European Council meets.

The Presidency accordingly submits the following annotated draft agenda, which sets out the main items it expects to be addressed by the European Council on 11 and 12 December 2008. Work on a good many of those items is already under way and the Presidency will draw on the outcome of it in further preparations for the European Council meeting.

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The Presidency intends to restrict the agenda for the European Council to items which will actually be discussed by the Heads of State or Government. The conclusions of the meeting will be brief, focusing mainly on the decisions and general policy lines approved by the European Council, and, if necessary, the follow-up to previous European Councils.

The meeting will be preceded by a presentation by the President of the European Parliament, Mr Hans-Gert Pöttering, followed by an exchange of views.

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I. Lisbon Treaty

Further to the conclusions of its meeting in October 2008, the European Council will return to this issue in order to adumbrate a solution and establish a common way forward.

II. Economic and financial affairs

The European Council will revert to the financial crisis and its impact on the economy. In particular, it will review work set in hand following the meeting in October 2008 and will issue the necessary decisions or guidance as regards:

- strengthening financial stability and financial supervision;
- initiatives for reforming the international financial system;
- support for growth and employment, for maintaining European industry's international competitiveness and for Europe's scientific and technological development.

III. Energy and climate change

In accordance with its October 2008 conclusions, the European Council will decide on appropriate responses to the challenges of implementing the energy-climate package, with a view to reaching overall agreement on it by the end of the year, working hand in hand with the European Parliament.

IV. Common agricultural policy

The European Council will assess the work of the Agriculture Ministers on the CAP health check and, if appropriate, consider the way ahead.

V. External relations and security

The European Council will be asked to approve a declaration on European defence and security, concerned in particular with the European security strategy, with international security and with strengthening European security and defence policy capabilities.

It will briefly consider the Commission proposals for an eastern partnership and will ask the Council and the Commission to continue work on this in 2009.

The Presidency does not at this stage plan to raise any other foreign policy matters at this European Council meeting.
