

Setting up of an ad hoc working party on Better Regulation
- Directors and Experts on Better Regulation -Proposal

Draft
DECISION
of the Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)

on

an ad hoc Working Party on Better Regulation to follow up the Commission's Action Plan "Simplifying and improving the regulatory environment".

THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE (Part 1)

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 207(1) thereof, and the prerogatives of the European Commission,

Having regard to Council Decision 2002/682/EC, Euratom of 22 July 2002 adopting the Council's Rules of Procedure¹, and in particular Article 19 thereof,

Whereas:

- the European Council at its meeting in Lisbon in March 2000 asked the Commission to set out a strategy for further coordinated action to simplify the regulatory environment;
- the high level consultative group ("Mandelkern Group") set up by Ministers responsible for the Civil Service gave its recommendations on 13 November 2001²
- the Commission on 5 June 2002 presented its Action Plan "Simplifying and improving the regulatory environment"³;
- the Council (Competitiveness) at its meeting on 30 September 2002 requested the Permanent Representatives Committee to give due consideration to the setting up of a horizontal working party on better regulation with the view to continuously assessing and evaluating the state of implementation of the Action Plan;

¹ OJ L 230, 28 August 2002, p. 7.

² Final Report of the high-level consultation group, chaired by Mr Mandelkern, submitted on 13 November 2001

³ 9809/02 MI 104 POLGEN 23 ADD 1.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS

Article 1

An Ad hoc Working Party on Better Regulation shall be established. It shall assist in preparing decisions and deliberations of the Council in relation to the follow-up to the Commission's Action Plan "Simplifying and improving the regulatory environment [by providing technical expertise.]

Article 2

In fulfilling its mandate set out in Article 1 the Working Party shall in particular:

- assess whether the actions in the Action Plan are implemented in accordance with the approved timetable and whether they produce the desired results
- assess the Commission's continued implementation of their impact assessment methodology, and explore ways of setting up a system of impact assessments on Council amendments to Commission proposals
- prepare the responses of the Council to the annual reports by the Commission on progress on the implementation of the Action Plan
- initiate a proactive dialogue with the Commission on their ongoing implementation of the Action Plan, in order to contribute to and encourage them in their work
- exchange best practices amongst Member States in the field of regulatory reform with a view to encouraging Member States to learn from each others' experience as well as to explore potential synergies between the implementation of the Action Plan and the actions at national level
- continue to operate until the Action Plan has been implemented in full and its effects have been properly evaluated

Article 3

The Working Party shall report to the Permanent Representatives Committee in accordance with Article 207 of the Treaty.

Article 4

This decision takes effect on the day of its adoption.

For the Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)

The Chairman