



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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INFORMATION NOTE

from: Greek Delegation
to: Council
Subject: Work programme of the incoming Presidency
- Information from the Greek Delegation

In view of the incoming Greek Presidency, the Transport Council will be informed of the priorities under the heading “Europe is our Common Quest and Journey – United we sail”.

The Greek Presidency intends to systematically work on the so-called “*Airport package*” and in particular on the Regulation concerning the introduction of **noise related operating restrictions** at Union airports, which appears to be mature enough for reaching an agreement with the European Parliament. Priority will also be given to the proposal concerning the **rights of passengers** travelling by air, where an agreement within the Council will be sought. In the first months, the Greek Presidency will also focus its efforts to conclude with the European Parliament the file for the Directive on the deployment of **alternative fuels infrastructure**. On rail transport the Greek Presidency will focus its efforts to conclude the agreement for the new European Railway Agency and the Council Regulation **Shift2Rail**. Following this debate, the political section of the **4th railway package** will be opened. As regards road transport, the Greek Presidency will aim to reach an agreement within the Council on the proposal amending the Directive laying down the **maximum authorised dimensions and weight** in national and international traffic of certain road

vehicles circulating within the Community. The Presidency also intends to achieve an agreement within the Council on the proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the deployment of the interoperable EU-wide **eCall**. The elaboration of other proposals and initiatives will depend on the availability of time and the conclusion of the files mentioned above.

As a traditional maritime nation, Greece attributes particular significance to shipping and to ensuring the impeccable operation of maritime transport. The Presidency intends to promote all initiatives aiming at the facilitation of maritime traffic within the EU internal market for the enhancement of the competitiveness of European shipping. The improvement of the implementation mechanisms and control of requirements for marine equipment are factors of major importance for the safety of navigation, with a positive impact on the protection of life at sea as well as the preservation of the marine environment. Consequently, the Greek Presidency will pursue an agreement with the European Parliament with regard to the **Marine Equipment Directive**. Furthermore, the Greek Presidency, perceiving the need for the creation of a more favourable investment environment in ports will seek the achievement of progress in the Council with regard to the proposal for a **Regulation establishing a framework on market access to port services and financial transparency of ports**.

These priorities set by the Greek Presidency will be reflected in the agendas of the TTE Councils scheduled on 14 March and 5 June 2014.
