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REPORT

from : COREPER
to : COUNCIL
No. Cion prop. : 15408/07 TELECOM 153 MI 299 COMPET 393 DATAPROTECT 51
CONSOM 134 CAB 46 CODEC 1298
No. prev. doc. 9095/08 TELECOM 61 MI 140 COMPET 175 DATAPROTECT 20 CONSOM
47 CAB 24 CODEC 550

Subject : Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
establishing the European Electronic Communications Market Authority

- Progress report

1. On 19 November 2007 the Commission transmitted to the Council its Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Electronic Communications Market Authority (EECMA). This proposal was part of the Review package of the EU Regulatory Framework on Electronic Communications.

2. The Commission proposal was discussed in the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society on 5 March 2008. During previous discussions in the Working Party concerning other parts of the Review package, several Member States asked that all references to EECMA were deleted or put into brackets. It became clear from the discussions, that almost all Member States were against the creation of EECMA, as proposed by the Commission. Member States also agreed that network and information security issues should be dealt with separately. However, the majority of Member States supported the idea of strengthening existing institutional structures in order to face current difficulties in the electronic communications markets. The discussion at the Working Party in March has showed further that, in order to make progress, alternatives to the Commission proposal have to be examined. MT has a parliamentary scrutiny reservation on EECMA.

3. The European Parliament currently discusses an alternative to the Commission proposal. This alternative was presented in April 2008 by Mrs Del Castillo Vera, rapporteur at the ITRE Committee.

4. The Slovenian Presidency will take stock of the results of the Council discussions during its Presidency in order to prepare the work for the next Presidency. Further examination and negotiations with the European Parliament will be conducted under the future French Presidency.