



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 6 November 2006**

**14849/06**

**EDUC 217  
RECH 292  
COMPET 301**

**NOTE**

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from: Presidency  
to: Permanent Representatives' Committee (Part 1)  
Subject : Proposal for a Regulation establishing the European Institute of Technology (EIT)  
- Setting up an Ad Hoc Working Party on EIT

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The Commission adopted on 18 October 2006 the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council establishing the European Institute of Technology (EIT). The proposal was preceded by a consultation process and two Commission communications<sup>1</sup>.

At its meetings in March and June 2006, the European Council recognised the importance of such an initiative.

The proposed EIT aims at improving and making better use of Europe's innovation potential through synergies between research, higher education and business. This would in turn strengthen Europe's long-term economic competitiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 6844/06 and doc. 10361/06.

Given the horizontal nature of the EIT with a focus on innovation, the Presidency considers that the proposal should be discussed in an ad hoc set-up. Such a set-up would take into account all the policy aspects in a streamlined, efficient and cost-effective manner. The Presidency suggests that the most appropriate way of doing this would be in the format of an Ad Hoc Working Party. As the legal basis for the Commission proposal is Article 157 (3) of the Treaty (industry policy), the Competitiveness Council would be the lead Council formation. However, the Education, Youth Affairs and Culture Council would be closely informed and involved.

In accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure, and in particular Article 19 thereof, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to approve the setting-up of an Ad Hoc Working Party on EIT and to request this Working Party to examine the Commission's proposal.

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