



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 6 October 2008  
(OR. de,fr)**

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REV 1**

**TRANS 308  
ENV 624  
ENER 298  
ENT 240**

**COVER NOTE**

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from : General Secretariat of the Council

to : Council

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Subject : Report on the progress of Environment Council dossiers relating to transport  
- Presidency briefing at the request of the German delegation

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Delegations will find attached an information note from the German delegation on the above topic to accompany the comments it will be making under "Other business" at the TTE Council Meeting on 9 October 2008.

Under "Other business" at the Coreper meeting on 24 September 2008, Germany requested the inclusion of a Presidency briefing on the progress of Environment Council dossiers relating to transport. Its arguments for inclusion of this agenda item are as follows:

A multitude of topics aimed at global climate protection are currently being discussed by the Environment Council. These topics have considerable implications for European transport policy. A potentially successful climate policy can only be achieved and implemented if there is close interaction with the specific sectoral policies concerned. To that end, comprehensive mutual information is essential. Under the German Presidency, discussion of environmental dossiers was started for the first time in the Transport Council and reporting on transport-related topics in the Environment Council was also included on the agenda of the Transport Council. In order to make clear the close interdependence between the relevant environmental and transport topics, Germany is again here requesting that the Presidency include this agenda item.

In particular, Germany would ask the Council Presidency to report on the state of play regarding the proposal for a Directive on CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for new light-duty vehicles. Given the differences of opinion in discussions by the Committees, it seems urgent that there should be firm agreement by the Council on the way forward.

Germany would especially request the Council Presidency to clarify the position in current discussions in the European Parliament and the Councils. What are the key objectives which the Presidency would like to achieve by the end of the year? How is the Presidency planning to guide decision-making by the various co-decision bodies? What is the estimated timeframe for a decision by the Council and the Parliament?

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