



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 30 September 2010 (04.10)  
(OR. de)**

**14280/10**

**COMPET 269**

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE GERMAN DELEGATION**

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To: Competitiveness Council on 11 and 12 October 2010

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Subject: Agenda Item 11: Other business

(b) Role of the different Council formations with a view to future economic and political coordination

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There is a broad consensus within the European Union in favour of reinforcing economic policy coordination. The German government supports the work being undertaken by the Task Force chaired by Herman Van Rompuy, and involving the European Council and the Commission, aimed at improving economic policy coordination procedures.

Agreement is emerging within the Van Rompuy Task Force on some key items for reform: Together with more intensive financial policy surveillance, an annual analysis and evaluation should be carried out on the nature and scale of macro-structural imbalances.

The Commission is proposing a two-phase procedure for this: a scoreboard with a limited number of carefully selected indicators would be used for ongoing monitoring of economic trends in the Member States so as to identify undesirable economic developments early and more effectively. Should the indicators point to the need for a thorough analysis, comprehensive qualitative country reviews would be carried out. These should form the basis for European Council recommendations to the relevant Member States.

Germany would like discussions to be held in the Council formations dealing with EU Member States' competitiveness on how surveillance of macro-structural imbalances should be organised in future and on the role to be played by the respective Council formations within that process.

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