



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 14 April 2011**

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**Interinstitutional File:  
2010/0092 (NLE)**

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**8519/11  
ADD 1 REV 2**

**UD 83  
COWEB 75**

**ADDENDUM TO THE "A" ITEM NOTE**

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from: General Secretariat

to: Council

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No. Cion prop.: 8944/10 UD 112

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Subject: Council Decision on the signature of the regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin  
= Adoption

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**STATEMENTS TO BE ENTERED IN THE COUNCIL MINUTES**

- A. Statement by Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Hungary, Austria, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Finland on enhanced cumulation rules of origin between the EU, the EFTA States, the participants in the European Union's stabilization and association process and Turkey**

"Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Hungary, Austria, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Finland, would like to thank successive Council Presidencies as well as the Commission and the Member States for the work that has led to the agreement on the regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin.

In order to simplify and modernize administratively burdensome rules of origin, the Commission has already launched the process of the revision of the preferential rules of origin under the Convention; whereas it is difficult to estimate when the revised Convention will become applicable it is worth recalling that certain already applicable rules provide for cumulation to be implemented in a less burdensome administrative manner.

Since practical and well-functioning cumulation rules are essential for trade cooperation between the partners of a cumulation zone, we call for such rules to be established for diagonal cumulation possibilities that are easily administered while taking into account all relevant factors.

In light of the EU perspective of the Participants in the European Union's stabilization and association process, diagonal cumulation possibilities based on easily manageable rules of origin would particularly contribute to increased trade cooperation, economic growth and stability in the region of the Western Balkans."

**B. Statement by UK supported by Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland and Finland**

"The UK's support for the adoption of this measure in no way prejudices our continuing objection to the reference to Kosovo as 'Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99' which we believe does not represent a genuinely status neutral position. The UK calls on the European External Action Service and the European Commission to rapidly conduct a cross-cutting review of references to Kosovo in all EU documents with a view to referring to Kosovo in a genuinely status neutral way."

**C. Statement by Romania, supported by Greece, Spain, Cyprus and Slovakia**

"Romania declares that the decision on the signature of the regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin does not affect the constant Romanian position on the status of Kosovo. At the same time, Romania considers that the reference to Kosovo as "Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/1999" in EU documents and, more importantly, in agreements signed by EU with Kosovo reflects a status neutral position."