



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 7 January 2013
(OR. en)**

18130/12

**JUR 653
INST 756
OC 776**

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: **COUNCIL DECISION amending the Council's Rules of Procedure
COMMON GUIDELINES
Consultation deadline for Croatia: 7.01.2013**

COUNCIL DECISION

of

amending the Council's Rules of Procedure

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Article 2(2) of Annex III to the Council's Rules of Procedure¹,

¹ Council Decision 2009/937/EU of 1 December 2009 adopting the Council's Rules of Procedure (OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35).

Whereas:

- (1) Article 3(3), first and fourth subparagraphs, of the Protocol (No 36) on transitional provisions annexed to the Treaties provide that, until 31 October 2014, when an act is to be adopted by the Council by a qualified majority, and if a member of the Council so requests, it must be verified that the Member States constituting the qualified majority represent at least 62 % of the total population of the Union.
- (2) That percentage is calculated according to the population figures set out in Article 1 of Annex III to the Council's Rules of Procedure (hereinafter "Rules of Procedure").
- (3) Article 2(2) of Annex III to the Rules of Procedure provides that, with effect from 1 January each year, the Council, in accordance with the data available to the Statistical Office of the European Union on 30 September of the preceding year, must amend the figures set out in Article 1 of that Annex.
- (4) The Rules of Procedure should therefore be amended accordingly for 2013,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 1 of Annex III to the Rules of Procedure shall be replaced by the following:

"Article 1

For the purposes of implementing Article 16(5) of the TEU and Article 3(3) and (4) of the Protocol (No 36) on transitional provisions annexed to the Treaties, the total population of each Member State for the period from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013 shall be as follows:

Member State	Population (x 1 000)
Germany	81 843,7
France	65 397,9
United Kingdom	62 989,6
Italy	60 820,8
Spain	46 196,3
Poland	38 538,4
Romania	21 355,8
Netherlands	16 730,3
Greece	11 290,9
Belgium	11 041,3
Portugal	10 541,8
Czech Republic	10 505,4
Hungary	9 957,7

Member State	Population (x 1 000)
Sweden	9 482,9
Austria	8 443,0
Bulgaria	7 327,2
Denmark	5 580,5
Slovakia	5 404,3
Finland	5 401,3
Ireland	4 582,8
Lithuania	3 007,8
Slovenia	2 055,5
Latvia	2 041,8
Estonia	1 339,7
Cyprus	862,0
Luxembourg	524,9
Malta	416,1
Total	503 679,7
Threshold (62 %)	312 281,4

".

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2013.

Done at

For the Council

The President
