



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**12111/1/13
REV 1**

POLGEN 139

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

No. prev. doc.: 5581/13

Subject: List of Council preparatory bodies

1. The list of Council preparatory bodies is attached in Annex I¹.
2. For preparatory bodies marked with a single asterisk, all delegates should have a valid EU personnel security clearance at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET. For preparatory bodies marked with a double asterisk, all delegates should have a valid EU Personnel Security Clearance at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL².
3. Annex II sets out certain security requirements governing access to meetings, in particular where classified information is discussed.

¹ This list does not include Joint Committees and other bodies with third countries. Nor does it include certain bodies (e.g. the Schengen Joint Supervisory Authority, COST and the Standing Committee on Employment) which, although they meet in the Council building, are not Council preparatory bodies.

² These references in Annex I cancel and replace document 8683/05 + COR 1.

4. Annex III lists all the preparatory bodies with a fixed chair (i.e. committees or working parties with an elected/appointed chair, chaired by a representative of the High Representative or chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council).
5. Committees or Working Parties may only be set up by, or with the approval of, the Council or COREPER. Only the committees and Working Parties on this list may meet as Council preparatory bodies (Article 19(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure).). *Ad hoc* Working Parties cease to exist once their terms of reference have been fulfilled. Their terms of reference should expressly state this rule or be time-limited.
6. Substantial and important new technical proposals requiring specific expertise should, as a rule, be included within the remit of the competent existing Working Party. If necessary for practical reasons a specific sub-area may be listed rather than creating a new permanent or *ad hoc* Working Party. The listing of sub-areas does *not* imply that Working Party remits are confined to the sub-areas in question; Working Parties cover any other matters falling within their general scope. The decision to list such sub-areas may be made by the Presidency on the basis of practical need.
7. Meetings should only be convened when a sufficiently substantive agenda exists or objective deadlines require it.

LIST OF COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES

A. Committees established by the Treaties, by intergovernmental decision, by Council act and groups closely associated with COREPER	4
B. General Affairs	6
C. Foreign Affairs	7
D. Economic and Financial Affairs	8
E. Justice and Home Affairs	9
F. Agriculture and Fisheries	10
G. Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	12
H. Transport/Telecommunications/Energy	13
I. Employment/Social Policy/Health/Consumer Affairs	13
J. Environment	13
K. Education/Youth/Culture/Sport	13

COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED BY THE TREATIES	
A.1	Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER) * - Part II - Part I
A.2	Economic and Financial Committee ¹ (°) **
A.3	Employment Committee ² (°)
A.4	Trade Policy Committee (TPC) ³ ** - Full Members - Deputies - Experts (STIS, Services and Investment, Mutual Recognition)
A.5	Political and Security Committee (PSC)(°°)*
A.6	Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI) ⁴ *
A.7	Social Protection Committee ⁵ (°)
COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL DECISION	
A.8	Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) ⁶

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

¹ This advisory body, established under Article 134 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), formulates opinions at the request of either the Council or the Commission and contributes to the preparation of Council proceedings. It has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission (see OJ L 158, of 27.6.2003, p.58).

² This advisory body, established under Article 150 of the TFEU, formulates opinions at the request of either the Council or the Commission and contributes to the preparation of Council proceedings. It has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission (see OJ L 29, of 4.2.2000, p.21).

³ The Trade Policy Committee assists the Commission in the negotiation of trade agreements and advises the Commission on the common commercial policy. Its consultative role is without prejudice to the functions of the relevant geographical working parties responsible for bilateral relations with third countries (cf. docs. 16864/09 and 5662/10).

⁴ This Committee, foreseen by Article 71 of the TFEU, was set up by Council Decision (see doc. 5949/10 + COR 1).

⁵ This advisory body, established under Article 160 of the TFEU, formulates opinions at the request of either the Council or the Commission. It has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission (see OJ L 314, of 13.10.2004, p.8).

⁶ The Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) was established by a decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States on 12 May 1960 to prepare decisions of the Agriculture Council.

COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED BY COUNCIL ACT	
A.9	European Union Military Committee (EUMC) ¹ (°) *
A.10	Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CivCom) ² (°°)*
A.11	Economic Policy Committee ³ (°)
A.12	Financial Services Committee ⁴ (°)
A.13	Security Committee ⁵ (°°°) * - Information Assurance (AQUAs, experts) ⁶ - GNSS experts ⁷ - Security Accreditation Board (SAB)
GROUPS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH COREPER	
A.14	Antici Group *
A.15	Mertens Group *
A.16	Friends of the Presidency Group - Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements and Solidarity Clause Implementation (IPCR/SCI) - Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) - Cyber Issues
COUNSELLORS/ATTACHES	
A.18	Counsellors/Attachés ⁸

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

(°°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council

¹ See Council Decision 2001/79/CFSP of 22 January 2001, OJ L 27 of 30.1.2001, p. 4-6. This Committee has an elected chair, as is confirmed by note 2 to Annex II to Council Decision 2009/908/EU of 1 December 2009, OJ L 322, 9.12.2009, p.28.

² See Council Decision 2000/354/CFSP of 22 May 2000, OJ L 127, p.1.

³ See Council Decision 2000/604/EC of 29 September 2000, OJ L 257 of 11.10.2000, p. 28. This Committee has an elected chair and its secretariat is provided by the Commission.

⁴ See Council Decision of 18 February 2003, OJ L 67 of 12.03.2003, p. 17.

⁵ See Council Decision 2011/292/EU of 31 March 2011, OJ L 141 of 27.5.2011, p. 17 (cf. Article 16)

⁶ See Council Decision 2011/292/EU of 31 March 2011, OJ L 141 of 27.5.2011, p. 17 (cf. Article 16, para. 3)

⁷ See doc. 7559/1/06 REV 1.

⁸ Formal Counsellor or Attaché meetings are convened and organised based on established practices.

GENERAL AFFAIRS	
B.1	Working Party on General Affairs
B.3	High-Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration ¹
B.4	Horizontal Working Party on Drugs ²
B.5	Working Party on Structural Measures
B.6	Working Party on Outermost Regions
B.7	Working Party on Atomic Questions **
B.8	Working Party on Statistics ³
B.9	Working Party on Information (°°°)
B.11	Coordination Committee for CIS (CCCIS) ⁴ (°°°) * - CCCIS (TECH) ⁵
B.12	Working Party on Codification of Legislation (°°°)
B.13	Working Party of Legal/Linguistic Experts (°°°)
B.14	Working Party on the Court of Justice
B.15	Working Party on the Staff Regulations
B.17	Ad hoc Working Party on the follow-up to the Council conclusions on Cyprus of 26 April 2004 ⁶
B.18	Ad hoc Working Party on the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism for Bulgaria and Romania ⁷
B.19	Working Party on Enlargement and Countries Negotiating Accession to the EU ⁸
B.21	Working Party on E-Law ⁹
B.22	Ad hoc Group on Nuclear Security ¹⁰

* All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level SECRET UE/EU SECRET.

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

(°°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council

¹ Approved by the Council on 25 January 1999 and Coreper on 4 June 2002.

² The Horizontal Working Party retains a general overview of all drug-related questions. The Presidency and the General Secretariat will accordingly ensure that it receives information on all drug-related issues being handled in other working parties.

³ Deals in particular with ECOFIN, internal market, agricultural and fisheries, social policy and health/consumer protection statistics. This Working Party retains a general overview of all statistical questions. The Presidency and the General Secretariat accordingly ensure that it receives information on all statistics-related issues being dealt with in other Working Parties (cf. 7003/03, p. 2).

⁴ Cf. doc. 14195/10

⁵ Cf. doc. 5189/11

⁶ Cf. COREPER (Part 2) of 7 April 2004.

⁷ Cf. doc. 5144/07.

⁸ Cf. doc. 10249/06.

⁹ Cf. doc. 16113/10

¹⁰ Cf. doc. 13111/1/11 REV 1

FOREIGN AFFAIRS	
C.1	Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX)* - Sanctions ¹
C.2	Working Party on Public International Law** - International Criminal Court
C.3	Working Party on the Law of the Sea
C.4	United Nations Working Party (°°)**
C.5	Working Party on OSCE and the Council of Europe (°°)**
C.6	Working Party on Human Rights (°°)**
C.7	Working Party on Transatlantic Relations (°°)*
C.9	Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia (°°)*
C.10	Working Party on EFTA ² **
C.11	Working Party on the Western Balkans Region (°°)*
C.12	Ad hoc Working Party on the Middle East Peace Process(°°)*
C.13	Middle East/Gulf Working Party (MOG)(°°)*
C.14	Mashreq/Maghreb Working Party (MAMA)(°°)*
C.15	Africa Working Party ³ (°°)*
C.16	ACP Working Party ⁴ **
C.17	Asia-Oceania Working Party (°°)*
C.18	Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean(°°)*
C.19	Working Party on Terrorism (International Aspects)*
C.20	Working Party on Non-Proliferation (°°)*
C.21	Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports (°°)* - Arms Trade Treaty
C.22	Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Control (°°)** - Space
C.23	Working Party on Dual-Use Goods**
C.25	Politico-Military Group (PMG)(°°)*
C.26	Military Committee Working Group (EUMCWG) ⁵ (°)* - HTF
C.27	Working Party on Trade Questions **
C.28	Working Party on the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)
C.30	Working Party on Development Cooperation**
C.31	Working Party on Preparation for International Development Conferences**
C.32	Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid
C.33	Working Party on Commodities (PROBA)
C.34	Working Party on Consular Affairs**
C.36	Nicolaidis Group ⁶ (°°)*
C.38	Working Party on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism* ⁷

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(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs.

(°°) Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

¹ Cf. doc. 5603/04.

² In addition to the EFTA countries and the Faroe Islands, this Working Party covers matters relating to Monaco, Andorra, San Marino and the Holy See.

³ Cf. doc. 8745/08.

⁴ Includes ACP/FIN.

⁵ This Working Group has an elected chair (see note 2 to Annex II to Council Decision 2009/908/EU of 1 December 2009, OJ L 322, 9.12.2009, p. 28). Experts may be convened to meet concurrently with the Working Group meeting (cf. doc 400/1/00 ADD 1 REV 2, pp. 37-95).

⁶ Cf. doc. 8441/03.

⁷ Cf. doc. 10826/1/07 REV 1.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS	
D.1	Working Party on Own Resources
D.2	Working Party of Financial Counsellors
D.3	Working Party on Financial Services
D.4	Working Party on Tax Questions - Indirect Taxation (including VAT, Excise duties, Energy taxation, FTT) - Direct Taxation (including Taxation of Savings, Interest and Royalties)
D.5	Code of Conduct Group (Business Taxation) ¹ (°) - Subgroup A - Subgroup B - Subgroup (Anti-abuse issues related to inbound and outbound profit transfers and mismatches between tax systems)
D.6	High Level Working Party ²
D.7	Budget Committee
D.8	Working Party on Combating Fraud
D.9	Working Party on Insurance ³
D.10	Ad hoc Working Party on Economic Governance ⁴
D.11	Export Credits Group ⁵
D.12	Ad-hoc Working Party on the Banking Supervision Mechanism ⁶

(°) Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs.

¹ High-level representatives of the Finance Ministers.

² Established to ensure the coordination of work including to achieve parallel progress on the tax package (cf doc. 9915/01).

³ Cf. doc. 5441/07 - Listed here since "insurance" is dealt with by Ecofin.

⁴ Established by COREPER 2 on 20 December 2011 to consider two legislative proposals by the Commission in the field of economic governance.

⁵ Tasks defined in doc S/477e/74, Council Decision of 27.9.1960.

⁶ Established by COREPER on 12 September 2012 (doc. 13370/2/12)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS¹	
E.1	Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA) ^{2**}
E.2	Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion
E.3	Visa Working Party
E.4	Asylum Working Party
E.6	Working Party on Frontiers ³
E.7	Working Party on Civil Law Matters
E.12	Working Party on Terrorism*
E.13	Customs Cooperation Working Party
E.14	Working Party on Cooperation in Criminal Matters ⁴
E.15	Working Party on Substantive Criminal Law
E.21	Working Party on Civil Protection (PROCIV)**
E.22	Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons ⁵ Persons ⁵
E.23	Working Party on Information Exchange and Data Protection ⁶
E.24	JAI-RELEX Working Party ⁷
E.25	CATS ^{8 *}
E.26	Law Enforcement Working Party
E.27	Working Party for Schengen Matters
E.28	Working Party on General Matters including Evaluation
E.29	Ad hoc Working Party JHA financial instruments ⁹

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** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

¹ COREPER decided on 17 December 2009 on several changes in the working structures, most of which took effect on 1 July 2010 (doc. 17653/09). In addition, on 24 November 2009, COREPER decided that (cf. doc. 16070/09 and 16072/09):

- (a) CATS/SCIFA shall continue to meet until 1 January 2012. Before that time, the necessity of having CATS/SCIFA shall be re-evaluated by COREPER, taking into account the efficiency and coherence of Council working structures.
- (b) CATS/SCIFA shall focus its discussions on strategic issues where COSI would not be able to contribute and meet as necessary, as convened by the Presidency.
- (c) CATS/SCIFA could be involved, when deemed appropriate, in legislative work. COREPER shall remain solely responsible for preparing legislative acts. In November 2011 CRP decided that CATS and SCIFA will continue to meet under new guidelines until a further evaluation is taken (cf. doc. 17182/11 and 17187/11)

² Cf. docs. 7440/04, 7780/06 and 16072/09.

³ Including false documents.

⁴ Cf. doc. 6166/2/99.

⁵ Cf. COREPER (Part 2) of 27 April 2005 (doc. 8457/05 CRS CRP 20). On 17 December 2009, COREPER decided to task it with all matters relating to fundamental rights and citizens rights including free movement of persons, negotiations on accession of the Union to the ECHR, the follow-up of reports from the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. The Working Party should be able to meet in different formations whenever necessary depending on the subject of the agenda. Made permanent by COREPER on 17 December 2009 (cf. doc. 17653/09).

⁶ Cf. docs 6259/5/06 REV 5, 9208/1/08 REV 1 (cf. doc. 17653/09)

⁷ Cf. doc. 14431/1/08. Made permanent by COREPER on 17 December 2009 (cf. doc. 17653/09).

⁸ Cf. doc. 16070/09 and 17187/11.

⁹ Proposed and approved by CRP 2 on 10.1.2012. Cf. doc. 5211/12 EXT 1

AGRICULTURE/FISHERIES	
F.1	High Level Group on Agriculture ¹
F.2	Working Party on Agricultural Structures and Rural Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture and Environment - Rural Development - Agricultural Structures - Aegean Islands
F.3	Working Party on Horizontal Agricultural Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simplification of the CAP - Strengthening of Controls ²
F.4	Working Party on the Promotion of Agricultural Products
F.5	Working Party on Genetic Resources in Agriculture
F.6	Working Party on Foodstuff Quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organic Farming - Geographical Indications and Designations of Origin - Certificates of Specific Character
F.7	Working Party on Animal Products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beef and Veal - Sheepmeat and Goatmeat - Piguement - Eggs and Poultry - Milk and Milk Products - Beekeeping and Honey
F.8	Working Party on Arable Crops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cereals - Oilseeds - Rice - Protein Crops - Dried Fodder - Seeds
F.9	Working Party on Sugar and Isoglucose
F.10	Working Party on Fruit and Vegetables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bananas - Fresh Fruit and Vegetables - Processed Fruit and Vegetables - Potatoes
F.11	Working Party on Olive Oil ³
F.12	Working Party on Wines and Alcohol ⁴ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wines - Aromatised Wines - Spirit drinks - Alcohol - OIV

¹ Cf. doc.13642/05. This Group meets at the level of Deputies of Ministers.

² Including the integrated system.

³ Including table olives.

⁴ Including vinegar.

F.13	Working Party on Special Plant Products - Floriculture - Hops - Tobacco - Textile Fibres
F.14	Working Party on Products not listed in Annex I
F.15	Working Party on Financial Agricultural Questions - Agri-monetary questions - AGRIFIN
F.16	Working Party on Forestry
F.17	Working Party on Agricultural Questions - Labelling of Processed Agricultural Products - Feedingstuffs - Seeds and Propagating Material - Harmful Organisms - Pesticide Residues - Pesticides/Plant Protection Products - Plant Breeder Rights - GMO
F.18	Working Party of Chief Plant Health Officers
F.19	Working Party on Plant Health - Protection and Inspection - Propagating and Planting Materials - Roosendaal Group
F.20	Working Party of Chief Veterinary Officers
F.21	Working Party of Veterinary Experts - Public Health - Animal Health - Animal Welfare - Animal Husbandry - Fishery Products - Potsdam Group
F.22	Coordination Working Party - FAO - OECD
F.23	Codex Alimentarius Working Party ¹
F.24	Working Party on External Fisheries Policy
F.25	Working Party on Internal Fisheries Policy
F.26	Working Party of Directors-General of Fisheries Departments
F.29	Ad hoc Working Party on Genetically Modified Organisms ²

¹ This Working Party meets in different configurations depending on the item under consideration.

² Cf. doc. 12829/1/10 REV 1

COMPETITIVENESS (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space¹)	
G.1	Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth ²
G.2	Working Party on Public Procurement
G.3	Working Party on Intellectual Property - Patents - Copyright - Design - Trademarks - Enforcement
G.4	Working Party on Company Law
G.6	Working Party on Establishment and Services
G.7	Working Party on Technical Harmonisation - Radio Equipment - Motor Vehicles (internal market; international) ³ - Dangerous substances - New legal framework - Recreational craft
G.8	Working Party on Customs Union
G.12	Working Party on Competition
G.13	Working Party on Research
G.14	Joint Working Party on Research/Atomic Questions
G.21	ERAC ⁴
G.22	Working Party on Space ⁵
G.23	Working Party on Consumer Protection and Information

¹ Following the entry into force of the TFEU, in particular Article 189, a decision to include the denomination on Space was submitted endorsed by the European Council of 16 September 2010 on recommendation by the GAC.

² Including internal market, industry, shipbuilding and tourism. In line with the COREPER decision (doc. 14818/02), this Working Party meets in different configurations depending on the agenda. When necessary and at the Presidency's initiative it meets at senior official level, with representatives designated by the Member States to deal *inter alia* with horizontal issues. Cf. doc. 17185/08.

⁴ Formerly CREST. This committee is chaired by the Commission. Its secretariat is provided by the Council Secretariat. The rules of procedure of ERAC allow for the establishment of ad hoc Working Parties. This reference includes two dedicated configurations of ERAC, called High Level Group on Joint Programming (GPC) and the Strategic Forum for international S&T Cooperation (SFIC) both having elected chairs from among the Member States.

⁵ Cf. doc. 14274/10

TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ENERGY

H.1	Working Party on Land Transport ¹
H.2	Working Party on Shipping ¹
H.3	Working Party on Aviation ¹
H.4	Working Party on Transport - Intermodal Questions and Networks ¹
H.5	Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society **
H.6	Working Party on Postal Services
H.7	Working Party on Energy ^{2**}
H.9	Ad-hoc Working Group on ILUC ³

EMPLOYMENT/SOCIAL POLICY HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

I.1	Working Party on Social Questions
I.2	Working Party on Public Health
I.4	Working Party on Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices
I.5	Working Party on Foodstuffs

ENVIRONMENT ⁴

J.1	Working Party on the Environment
J.2	Working Party on International Environment Issues

EDUCATION/YOUTH/CULTURE/SPORT

K.1	Education Committee
K.2	Working Party on Youth
K.3	Committee on Cultural Affairs
K.4	Audiovisual Working Party
K.5	Working Party on Sport ⁵

** All delegates should be security cleared at least to the level CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL.

¹ These working parties also meet in special configurations according to operational needs, including as special committees provided for in Council negotiating directives.

² Includes the High-level Working Party on Energy.

³ See doc. 17304/12.

⁴ These Working Parties meet in different configurations depending on the subject under consideration.

⁵ See doc. 5009/10, Coreper 1 in February 2010.

**SECURITY PROCEDURES FOR
MEETINGS OF COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES**

Access to meeting rooms

1. Rooms where meetings are in progress are regarded as protected areas subject to access and presence control. In the case of meetings of certain Council configurations or meetings where sensitive matters are discussed, access and presence checks may be carried out by Security Office staff. For meetings where EU classified information is discussed, further details are provided below. Presence at other meetings is checked by peers under the responsibility of the chair.
2. Delegates' identification badges must be worn visibly. The room attendant may ask to verify any delegate's identification badge and, where an individual cannot produce it, request the assistance of the Security Office. Security Office agents are authorised to deny access or to remove any unidentified or unauthorised individuals from a meeting. Holders of day badges will only be admitted if their badges specifically authorise attendance at the meeting.

Discussion of classified items

3. All discussion of classified items must be organised in accordance with the Council's security rules for protecting EU classified information¹.

Security clearance

4. Delegates attending meetings of the Council preparatory bodies where classified items are discussed regularly must be cleared at least to the level indicated in Annex I of this document.
5. Delegations will be reminded of the security clearance requirement for any item classified CONFIDENTIAL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL or above in advance in the notice convening the meeting.
6. It is the responsibility of the meeting chair to announce the discussion of an item classified at level CONFIDENTIEL UE / EU CONFIDENTIAL and to ensure that all delegates are appropriately security cleared. It is the responsibility of Member States to send only appropriately cleared representatives to such meetings. The chair may request the assistance of the Security Office to deal with any issues that may arise.

¹ Council Decision 2011/292/EU (OJ L 141 of 27.05.2011, pp. 17-65).

CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL

7. Discussion of items involving information classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL may take place in any meeting room. Access to meetings or items classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL is subject to spot checks conducted by the GSC Security Office with the assistance of the GSC official servicing the meeting. Electronic devices (portable, computers, tablet devices, mobile phones, PDA's, etc) are particularly vulnerable to being compromised for eavesdropping. Delegations must switch off such devices for the duration of items classified CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL. The Chair or the GSC official servicing the meeting should remind delegates of this before discussion of the item.

SECRET UE/EU SECRET

8. Discussion of items involving information classified SECRET UE/EU SECRET must always take place in the room designated for this purpose. Access to meetings or items classified SECRET UE/EU SECRET is controlled by the GSC Security Office with the assistance of the GSC official servicing the meeting. The Security Office is instructed not to allow any exceptions to the possession of a SECRET UE/EU SECRET personal security clearance, nor to allow the presence of electronic devices. Delegates' Personnel Security Clearance Certificate (PSCC) must be forwarded by the appropriate national authorities, the Commission Security Directorate or the EEAS Security Office to the GSC Security Office (e-mail: securite.habilitations@consilium.europa.eu). Exceptionally, the original EU PSCC certificate may be hand carried by the delegate concerned.

LIST OF PREPARATORY BODIES WITH A FIXED CHAIR**I. Committees and Working Parties with elected/appointed chairs**

- A.2 Economic and Financial Committee
- A.3 Employment Committee
- A.7 Social Protection Committee
- A.9 European Union Military Committee (EUMC)
- A.11 Economic Policy Committee
- A.12 Financial Services Committee
- C.26 Military Committee Working Group (EUMC WG)
- D.5 Code of Conduct Group (Business Taxation)

II. Committees and Working Parties chaired by a representative of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

- A.5 Political and Security Committee (PSC)
- A.10 Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CivCom)
- C.4 United Nations Working Party
- C.5 Working Party on OSCE and the Council of Europe
- C.6 Working Party on Human Rights
- C.7 Working Party on Transatlantic Relations
- C.9 Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- C.11 Working Party on the Western Balkans Region
- C.12 Ad hoc Working Party on the Middle East Peace Process
- C.13 Middle East/Gulf Working Party (MOG)
- C.14 Mashreq/Maghreb Working Party (MAMA)
- C.15 Africa Working Party
- C.17 Asia-Oceania Working Party
- C.18 Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean
- C.20 Working Party on Non-Proliferation
- C.21 Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports
- C.22 Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Control
- C.25 Politico-Military Group (PMG)
- C.36 Nicolaidis Group

III. Committees and Working Parties chaired by the General Secretariat of the Council

- A.13 Security Committee, and its subareas
- B. 9 Working Party on Information
- B.21 Working Party on E-Law
- B.11 Coordination Committee for Communication and Information Systems
- B.12 Working Party on Codification of Legislation
- B.13 Working Party of Legal/Linguistic Experts