



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 11 November 2013
(OR. en)**

15903/13

**EDUC 426
RELEX 999
OCDE 7**

INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council
Subject: Status of Cyprus Data in the OECD Surveys
- *Information from the Cyprus delegation*

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Cyprus delegation on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under "Other Business" for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 25-26 November 2013.

Status of Cyprus Data in the OECD Surveys

Cyprus has been actively trying to become a member of the OECD for a number of years, but this has unfortunately not materialized yet for reasons outside the control of Cyprus. Thanks to the efforts of the European Commission it now participates in the OECD surveys PISA, PIAAC and TALIS through direct contracts with the subcontractors of these surveys.

In that context, Cyprus fulfills all the conventional obligations arising from this limited participation. However, it experiences discriminatory treatment from the OECD, especially with respect to data management, as a result of actions of an OECD member state which is also an EU candidate country. Cyprus has repeatedly expressed its discontent on the matter.

Cyprus wishes to request the support and solidarity of its EU partners in order to ensure equal treatment in OECD activities in the field of education and that in the future, data contributed by Cyprus is handled in the same way as all other EU Member States, and presented in the relevant reports and data files.

On the occasion of the meeting of the Education Council, Cyprus wishes to bring this issue to the attention of the Ministers and the European Commission.
