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REPORT

From : General Secretariat

To : Council

No. Cion prop. : 12786/12 TRANS 249 CODEC 1954

Subject : *Preparation of the Council meeting (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 29 October 2012*

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC
– Orientation debate

I. Introduction

1. The proposal for a Regulation on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC is part of the roadworthiness package together with the Regulation on the technical roadside inspections and the Directive on the registration documents for vehicles. The roadworthiness package was submitted to the Council on 13 July 2012.

2. The objective of the proposal is to lay down updated harmonised rules on the roadworthiness testing of motor vehicles and their trailers with a view to enhancing road safety and environmental protection. The proposal aims at contributing to reach the target of a reduction of road fatalities by half until 2020 as laid down in the Policy Orientations on Road Safety 2011-2020. It will also contribute to the reduction of emissions in road transport linked to poor maintenance of vehicles.
3. The Working Party on Land Transport examined the impact assessment accompanying the roadworthiness package on 7 and 14 September 2012. The examination of the proposal on periodic roadworthiness tests started on 21 and continued on 28 September, 5 and 9 October 2012. Moreover, two technical meetings were scheduled for 17 and 25 October 2012.
4. At its meeting on 17 October, Coreper examined the draft questions presented by the Presidency in order to structure the ministerial debate and agreed to slightly modify them.

II. Questions for the policy debate

5. Against the background of the above and in order to enable the Council preparatory bodies to advance in their work on the above proposal, the following questions would need to be addressed and decided at a political level. Therefore, Ministers are invited to reply to the two questions below at the TTE Council on 29 October 2012:

Question 1:

Do you consider that a sufficient degree of harmonization of testing can better be reached by the legislative initiative(s), as proposed by the Commission?

Question 2:

Do you consider that the list of vehicles to be submitted to periodic roadworthiness tests and the frequency of these tests, as proposed by the Commission, are the most important drivers to achieve the underlying objectives of the proposal?