



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

GENERAL AFFAIRS



18.12.09

Council Conclusions

During the AGRIFISH Council meeting held on 14 and 15 December, General Affairs matters were also undertaken.

Implementation of Lisbon Treaty: Delegated acts

The Council adopted a declaration on the implementation of Article 290 of the Lisbon Treaty concerning delegated acts. The Council underlines, in particular, the importance of the Commission's commitment to, in the preparatory phase, systematically consult experts from the national authorities of all the member states, which will be responsible for implementing the delegated acts once they have been adopted.

Under Article 290 of the Lisbon Treaty the Council and the European Parliament may delegate to the Commission the power to adopt non-legislative acts of general application to supplement or amend certain non-essential elements of the legislative act.

[Click here](#) to view reference

Statistics

EU27 current account deficit 33.3 bn euro, 14.2 bn euro surplus on trade in services – **11/12/2009**

The EU27 external current account recorded a deficit of 33.3 billion euro in the third quarter of 2009, compared with a deficit of 72.6 bn in the third quarter of 2008 and a deficit of 49.2 bn in the second quarter of 2009. In the third quarter of 2009, the EU27 external balance of trade in services recorded a surplus of 14.2 bn euro, compared with a surplus of 20.1 bn in the third quarter of 2008 and a surplus of 17.5 bn in the second quarter of 2009.



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This provisional data is issued by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, will be subject to revision. [Click here](#) to view in more detail

Industrial production down by 0.6% in euro area and down by 0.7% in EU27 – 14/12/2009

In October 2009 compared with September 2009, seasonally adjusted industrial production fell by 0.6% in the euro area and by 0.7% in the EU27. In September production increased by 0.2% and 0.1% respectively. In October 2009 compared with October 2008, industrial production declined by 11.1% in the euro area and by 10.2% in the EU27.

These estimates are released by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. [Click here](#) to view in more detail

Euro area and EU27 employment down by 0.5% - 14/12/2009

The number of persons employed in the euro area fell by 0.5% (712 000 persons) in the third quarter of 2009 compared with the previous quarter, according to national accounts estimates published by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. In the same period, the number of persons employed in the EU27 also decreased by 0.5% (1 019 000 persons). In the second quarter of 2009, employment declined by 0.5% in the euro area and by 0.6% in the EU27. These figures are seasonally adjusted. [Click here](#) to view in more detail

GDP per inhabitant in the Member States ranged from 41% to 276% of the EU27 average in 2008 – 15/12/2009

In 2008, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per inhabitant in Luxembourg, expressed in purchasing power standards (PPS), was more than two and a half times the EU27 average, while Ireland and the Netherlands recorded levels about one third above average. Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Germany, the United Kingdom and Belgium were between 15% and 25% above the EU27 average.

France, Spain and Italy registered GDP per inhabitant between 0% and 10% above the EU27 average, while Cyprus, Greece and Slovenia were between 0% and 10% below the average.

The Czech Republic, **Malta**, Portugal, and Slovakia were between 20% and 30% lower than the EU27 average. Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia and Poland were between 30% and 50% lower, while Romania and Bulgaria were between 50% and 60% below the EU27 average.

This data for 2008, 2007 and 2006, published by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, are based on revised purchasing power parities, and the latest GDP and



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population figures. They cover the 27 EU Member States, the three EU Candidate Countries, three EFTA Member States and four Western Balkan countries. [Click here](#) to view in more detail

Euro area annual inflation up to 0.5% and EU up to 1.0% - 16/12/2009

Euro area annual inflation was 0.5% in November 2009, up from -0.1% in October. A year earlier the rate was 2.1%. Monthly inflation was 0.1% in November 2009. EU annual inflation was 1.0% in November 2009, up from 0.5% in October. A year earlier the rate was 2.8%. Monthly inflation was 0.2% in November 2009. These figures come from Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. [Click here](#) to view in more detail

Foreign citizens made up 6% of the EU27 population – 16/12/2009

On 1 January 2008, 30.8 million foreign citizens lived in the EU27 Member States, of which 11.3 million were citizens of another EU27 Member state. The remaining 19.5 million were citizens of countries outside the EU27, of which 6.0 million were citizens of other European countries, 4.7 million of Africa, 3.7 million of Asia and 3.2 million of the American continent. Foreign citizens accounted for 6.2% of the total EU27 population. This news release, issued on the occasion of the International Migrants Day² on 18 December 2009, is based on a report³ by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, on foreign citizens in the EU27 Member States, Norway and Switzerland. This report presents data either supplied by National Statistical Institutes, or approved by them if estimated by Eurostat. [Click here](#) to view in more detail