



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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"I" ITEM NOTE

from : Presidency
on : 31 January 2008
to : COREPER

Subject : Coherence screening of indicative Council agendas - Identification of items with a development dimension on the indicative agendas for Council meetings
= Presidency Information Note

1. In its Conclusions of 17 October 2006¹, the Council invited each Presidency, when it draws up indicative agendas with the assistance of the General Secretariat, to ensure that agendas for Council meetings identify items with a development dimension and which might therefore require a wider discussion.

¹ Doc. 14072/06.

2. Accordingly, further to the indicative agendas of Council meetings for the period up to 30 June 2008², the Presidency herewith attaches for information a note issued under its responsibility, identifying which items it believes have a specific development dimension and might therefore require a wider discussion.

 3. COREPER is invited to take note of this Presidency Information Note.
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² Docs. 16657/07 and 16761/07.

PRESIDENCY INFORMATION NOTE

Coherence analysis of the Slovenian Presidency work programme in the context of the 18-month work programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian presidencies

1. Policy coherence for development (PCD) is based on article 3 of the Treaty of the European Union and on article 178 of the Treaty of the European Community. It is one of the key elements required to help achieve both international and EU commitments on poverty eradication. The EU has already expressed a strong commitment to deal with PCD challenges, most notably in the 2005 EU Joint Development Policy Statement - the European Consensus for Development¹.
2. In its conclusions of 17 October 2006², the Council invited “*each Presidency to do its utmost to ensure that development concerns are fully reflected across the policy spectrum at all relevant stages in the decision-making process assisted by the Council Secretariat. This should start with a **clear reference in the joint three-Presidency 18-month programme** to those issues which are likely to have an important development dimension. An update of the PCD rolling Work Programme in light of the EU and international agenda³, to be carried out with the assistance of the General Secretariat and the Commission, will serve as a check list for this exercise. Each presidency is invited, when it draws up indicative agendas with the assistance of the General Secretariat, to ensure that **agendas for Council meetings identify items with a development dimension** and which might therefore require a wider discussion. The Presidency should subsequently inform delegations of the preparatory process it intends to follow for these items. This could include joint meetings of Council formations or highlighting on the agendas of the Council's subordinate bodies those items where the presence of development experts might be useful.*”

¹ OJ C 46, 24.2.2006, p.1.

² Doc. 14072/06 p. 3 para 5.

³ Conclusions on PCD: Work Programme 2006-2007, doc. 8387/06, p. 3.

3. Following-up to these Council conclusions, delegations will find enclosed a **PCD analysis of the Slovenian Presidency work programme** in the context of the three Presidencies 18-month programme. It enlists topics of the Slovenian Presidency programme which include an important development dimension, identifies the development dimension and highlights the related issues on the indicative Council agendas up to 30 June 2008. The coherence analysis is an instrument to **create transparency** and facilitate **policy coherence** first and foremost **at national level**.

4. This PCD screening of Council agendas is based on the assumption that the respective national contributions to discussions of dossiers in the competent Council formations will already adequately reflect PCD considerations. The Presidency will therefore decide on a case by case basis whether specific discussion formats in Council might add value in order to further enhance coherence aspects.

1. POLICY COHERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT (PCD): SCREENING OF INDICATIVE COUNCIL AGENDAS FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 30 JUNE 2008
 Reference to issues which are “likely to have an important development dimension” and identification of items with a development dimension on the agendas for Council meetings¹

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
Science and Research²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation of the 7th Framework Programme for Research and the Programme for Lifelong Learning - reinforce international cooperation in science and technology - better environment and better conditions for research activities - Slovenian Presidency will give special emphasis to the field of science and research and to women in science <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Global sustainable development is facilitated through science and research.</p>	<p>EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE COUNCIL 14 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inter-institutional declaration designating 2009 a European Year of Creativity and Innovation <p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 25/26 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commission proposals on Article 169 Initiatives - Commission proposals on Joint Technology Initiatives - (poss.) Strategic Energy Technologies (SET) Action Plan <p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 29/30 MAY 2008</p>

¹ As requested by GAERC Conclusions from 17 October, p.3 para 5

² Para 16 – 18 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Gender aspects should be increasingly considered in the field of research. Participation of women in science should be enhanced.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> External aspects of new Commission proposals. The interests of developing countries should be taken into account in science and research.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Commission proposals on Article 169 Initiatives - Commission proposals on Joint Technology Initiatives - Report on the implementation of measures in FP6 designed to enhance the participation of women in science and to increase the consideration for gender aspects in research - (poss.) Communication from the European Communication on helping Member States to identify and develop joint public research programmes - (poss.) Communication from the European Commission on Competitive European Regions through research and innovation - (poss.) Report of the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the evaluation of the "European and Developing Countries' Clinical Trials Partnership" programme. - (poss.) Report by the Commission - Annual Report on research and technological development activities of the European Union - (poss.) Commission Recommendation on the European Charter for the management of intellectual property by

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
		public research institutions.
Information Society³	<p>Information society</p> <p>- Action Plan on e-Inclusion and follow up of the i2010 Strategic Framework, the Action Plan on e-Government, the Directive on the re-use of public sector information, the e-Content Plus Programme and the Safer Internet Plus Programme and e-Health</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Access to information and communication technology fosters development.</p>	<p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 12/13 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication on i2010 – European Information Society for Growth and Employment, Annual Report, Mid Term Review - Proposal for establishing the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) - Proposal for a Decision amending the Decision on a Safer Internet Program - Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and the Council on a Programme to protect children using the Internet and the new media - (poss.) Communication on critical Communication and Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP) - (poss.) Communication on the external dimension of

³ Para 26-29 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p>International dimension of research and technological development</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical capacity building - implementation of the 7th Framework Programme for Research and the Programme for Lifelong Learning should include opportunities for developing countries (support of development related research topics) -The interests of developing countries should be taken into account with a view of bridging the digital gap. -- Gender aspects in the external dimension of research and technology 	<p>audiovisual policy</p>
Energy Policy ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehensive, coherent and consistent energy policy for Europe, aimed at achieving the EU three core objectives of sustainability, competitiveness and security of supply. - Energy dialogue with "strategic energy partners" or "main producers, transit and consumer countries" - external energy relations with Africa: comprehensive Europe-Africa energy partnership including sustainable exploitation of resources 	<p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 28 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication on a Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) - Climate-Energy Legislative Package - Internal Energy Market legislative package (electricity, natural gas)

⁴ Para 44-50 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Sustainable development through strengthening renewable energies and energy efficiency; role of China in Africa. Envisaged increase of use of bio-fuels in EC requires imports mostly from developing countries – the respect of social and environmental standards important, coherence of trade and energy policies. Africa potentially strategic energy partner (Europe-Africa energy partnership).</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Relations with third countries should take into account specific needs and concerns of developing countries.</p>	<p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 29/30 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable Industrial Policy <p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 6 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal Energy Marker package (electricity, natural gas) - International energy relations
Transport⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work on the different proposals under the Third Maritime Safety Package - strengthening the role of the European Community and its Member States in international fora and in particular in the IMO by means of better coordination - Competitiveness of the European aviation industry focusing on the external relations. - Aviation security - liberalisation of aviation market access: the Council will examine the Commission proposal on the review of the 3rd liberalisation package - On the basis of the Commission Communication entitled "Freight Transport 	<p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 7/8 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication “Towards a rail network giving priority to freight” - Amender proposal for a Regulation on the further implementation of EGNOS and Galileo - TEN-T Communication on progress of explanatory talks regarding cooperation in the field of transport with neighbouring countries

⁵ Para 51-63 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p>Logistics in Europe – the key to sustainable mobility" of June 2006, a coherent approach will be formulated as the basis for an action plan on freight transport logistics</p> <p>Slovenian Presidency will focus particularly on the following matters: transport safety, railway transport and the GALILEO programme.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> effective, efficient and clean air and maritime transport services supporting sustainable development and regional trade; the liberalisation of the aviation market access should take into account the impact of the 3rd liberalization package on developing countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal for a Directive on airport charges - Report on European Single Sky <p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 12/13 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amender proposal for a Regulation on the further implementation of EGNOS and Galileo - (poss.) Proposal for a Council Regulation on the establishment of structures for the management of the EGNOS - Proposal for a Directive of the EP and of the Council on road infrastructure safety management - Proposal for a Directive on the cross border enforcement of controls and sanctions in the field of road safety
Health⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pandemic disease planning and preparedness as well as the continuous combat against HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis will remain high on the agenda - Careful attention will be paid by all three Presidencies to future developments at the international level, in particular to cooperation within the World Health Organisation (WHO) 	<p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 17-18 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avian influenza <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 19-20 MAY 2008</p>

⁶ Para 75-77 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p>Slovenian Presidency tackles issues linked to HIV/AIDS such as sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) policies, and their inter-relationships with broader issues of public health, development and human rights, as a global effort towards the achievement of the MDGs.</p> <p>-Collectively maintaining and increasing funding of the EU to the GFATM will be promoted.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> EU engagement in global fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.</p>	<p>- Avian influenza</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL 9/10 JUNE 2008</p> <p>- Implementation of the EU Health Strategy</p> <p>- EU Action Plan to fight tuberculosis</p>
Gender Equality⁷	<p>- Implementation of European Pact for Gender Equality on a European as well as on a national level.</p> <p>- Implementation of the EU Commission's "Road Map" on Gender Equality 2006-2010</p> <p>- Gender Equality and research area: Slovenian Presidency will give special emphasis to this topic.</p> <p>- Slovenian Presidency will focus on the position of women in armed conflict.</p>	<p>EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL 29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- Report on equality between women and men</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL 9/10 JUNE 2008</p> <p>- Review of the implementation by the Member States and the EU institutions of the Beijing Platform for Action /girls and the girl child)</p>

⁷ Para 87-88 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Strengthening the role of women is crucial for development. The promotion of gender equality in development is also important with regard to coherence within the EU.</p>	<p>- Elimination of gender stereotypes and promotion of girls and young women in society</p> <p>- (poss.) Proposal for a Directive on equal treatment outside employment</p>
<p>Agricultural/ fisheries and Maritime policies⁸</p>	<p>Agriculture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - economically and socially sustainable, environmentally friendly and market-oriented agricultural policy - focus attention on the reform of the Common Market Organisations for fruit and vegetables, wine, and bananas and the preparation of the review of the CMOs for milk and milk products as well as dried fodder <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Coherence between EU internal agricultural policy and development policy - reforms should take the impact on development into account and the EU should take into consideration the difficulties of some developing countries, which have to cope with the adjustment costs of trade liberalisation.</p> <p>Fisheries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - integrated approach in order to ensure the continued protection of fisheries resources and to bring about an efficient sustainable use of marine ecosystems 	<p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 21-22 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Health Check Green Paper – Communication -Review of the support scheme in the cotton sector -Milk sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> =Report from the Commission to the Council regarding the dairy sector and the market outlook for dairy products. =Increase of the national quotas for the production of milk and other milk products -Proposal for a Council Regulation on the measures to be undertaken by the Commission in 2008 -2013 making use of the remote-sensing application developed within the framework of the common agricultural policy -(poss.) Proposal for a Council Regulation on information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products on the internal market and in third countries

⁸ Para 92-104 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p>- promote an active role of the EU in international and regional Fisheries Organisations and pursue the goal of maintaining stable fisheries relations with third countries on a sustainable basis</p> <p>- Green paper to be finalised contains integrated maritime policy on the different levels of action which covers all sea-based economic activities, fosters scientific knowledge, growth and employment and, taking into account an ecosystemic approach, strikes a balance between economic, environmental and social aspects</p> <p>- Fight against the illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Maritime policy and fisheries relations with third countries should be sustainable and coherent with development policy because of the importance of fisheries for income and food security in developing countries, as well as the environmental implications.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> The process of trade liberalisation tends to integrate developing countries into the international trade flow, which can contribute to their development and overall welfare.</p>	<p>– Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 establishing a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals</p> <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 18-19 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>– Health Check Green Paper - Communication</p> <p>– Proposal for a Council Regulation on the common organisation of the market in the wine sector</p> <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 17-18 MARCH 2008</p> <p>– Health Check Green Paper – Communication</p> <p>- Proposal for a Council Regulation on the common organisation of the market in the wine sector</p> <p>– Review of the support scheme in the cotton sector</p> <p>– Increase of the national quotas for the production of milk and other milk products</p> <p>– Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> new proposals on agricultural products that are produced in developing countries (such as sugar, manioc, bananas or cotton) should take into account this countries' trade and agriculture concerns.</p>	<p>between the EC and the ACP States and India on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar for the 2006/2007 delivery period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88 –Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the submission by Member States of statistics on aquaculture - Amendment of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 796/2004 regarding the detailed rules of cross compliance and the integrated administration and control system. <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 14-15 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Amendment of the Single CMO Regulation (to incorporate fruit and vegetables, milk, sugar, beef and veal labelling, seeds) –Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the EC and the ACP States and India on the guaranteed

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Partnerships and Agreements between EC and third countries in the field of Fisheries.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Maritime policy and fisheries relations with third countries</p>	<p>prices for cane sugar for the 2006/2007 delivery period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Amendment of the Single CMO Regulation to provide a roll-over of the current flax and hemp regime –Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning meat and livestock statistics –Proposal for a Directive establishing a framework for Community action to achieve a sustainable use of pesticides –Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of Plant Protection Products on the market <p><u>FISHERIES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament - 2006-2008 Action Plan for simplifying and improving the Common Fisheries Policy – Communication on the implementation of Council decision 2004/585/EC establishing Regional Advisory Councils under the CFP and on the functioning of the RACs – (poss.) Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a long-term plan for the stock of herring distributed to the West of Scotland and the fisheries exploiting that stock

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	<p>should be sustainable and coherent with development policy because of the importance of fisheries for income and food security in developing countries, as well as the environmental implications.</p>	<p>- Proposal for a Council Regulation authorising the Commission to approve modifications to protocols of Fisheries Partnership Agreements concluded between the European Community and third countries</p> <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 19-20 MAY 2008</p> <p>–Amendment of the Single CMO Regulation (to incorporate fruit and vegetables, milk, sugar, beef and veal labelling)*</p> <p>–Amendment of the Single CMO Regulation to provide a roll-over of the current flax and hemp regime*</p> <p>–Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending for the second time Council Directive 86/609/EEC on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States regarding the protection of animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes</p> <p>–Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 96/22/EC concerning the prohibition on the use in stockfarming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyreostatic action</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
		<p>and of beta-agonists</p> <p>–Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals as regards the extension of the transitional period</p> <p>–Communication from the Commission on additional legislative options to combat illegal logging</p> <p>- (poss.) Commission Regulation amending Regulations (EC) N° 2090/2002, N° 3122/94 and N° 800/1999 as regards physical and substitution controls in the framework of export refunds on agricultural products</p> <p>GENERAL AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COUNCIL 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <p>– Council Decision establishing the position to be adopted on behalf of the Community within the Food Aid Committee as regards the extension of the Food Aid Convention 1999</p> <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 23-24</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
		<p>JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Health Check Green Paper (Legislative proposal) –Revision of the marketing standards for poultry meat –Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption –Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down Community procedures for the establishment of residue limits of pharmacologically active substances in foodstuffs of animal origin, and repealing Regulation (EEC) N° 2377/90 –Proposal for a Council Regulation on simplifying procedures of listing and publishing information in the veterinary and zootechnical fields –Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 96/22/EC concerning the prohibition on the use in stockfarming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyreostatic action and of beta-agonists

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> One of the main responsibilities of the EU agricultural policy is the struggle against climate change and the preservation of biodiversity in view of sustainable development.</p>	<p>–Proposal for a Council Directive on the marketing of fruit plant propagating material and fruit plants intended for fruit production - Recast version</p> <p>–Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on feed labelling</p> <p>–Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of Plant Protection Products on the market</p> <p>- (poss.) Legislative proposals arising from the Communication on the ‘Health Check’ in the Common Agricultural Policy</p> <p>- (poss.) Proposal for a Commission Regulation laying down the marketing standards for fresh fruit and vegetables and establishing requirements on checks on conformity to these marketing standards.</p> <p><u>FISHERIES</u></p> <p>–Proposal for a Council Regulation concerning authorisations for fishing activities of Community fishing vessels outside Community waters and the access of third</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Fight against the illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries for sustainable development and stability of the region.</p>	<p>country vessels to Community waters</p> <p>–Proposal from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament for a Council Regulation on the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the high seas from the adverse effects of bottom fishing gears</p> <p>– Proposal for a Council Regulation on stepping up the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing</p> <p>–(poss.) Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a long-term plan for the stock of herring distributed to the West of Scotland and the fisheries exploiting that stock</p> <p>–Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation 2930/86 defining the characteristics of fishing vessels</p> <p>–Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) no 423/2004 of 26 February 2004 establishing measures for the recovery of cod stocks</p> <p>–Communication from the Commission to the Council: Fishing opportunities for 2009 - Policy statement from the European Commission</p> <p>- (poss.) Proposal for a Council Regulation on the multi-annual management of short-lived fish stocks in</p>

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
		<p>Community waters: anchovy, sandeel and Norway pout.</p> <p>- (poss.) Proposal for a Council regulation laying down certain technical measures applicable to fishing activities in the Convention Area of the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO).</p> <p>- (poss.) Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Community of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement.</p>
<p>Sustainable Development, environmental protection⁹</p>	<p>- Monitor the implementation of the EU Strategy for Sustainable Development ensuring comprehensive discussions on progress made</p> <p>- high level of protection of the environment by conserving natural resources, by using resources more efficiently and by taking into account environmental aspects in all relevant policies</p> <p>- 6th Environment Action Programme: Thematic Strategies on air, waste, marine environment and the sustainable use of natural resources; work on the soil and the pesticides strategies</p> <p>- UN Commission on sustainable development</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Integration of environmental aspects into EU-external</p>	<p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL 28/29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Proposal for a Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 3 MARCH 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Conclusion by the European Community of the SEA Protocol to the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context</p> <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL 5/6 JUNE 2008</p>

⁹ Para 14-15, 105-109 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	relations contributes to sustainable development.	- Proposal for a Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law
	<p>International Environmental Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more coherent institutional framework for environmental activities within the UN system - prepare meeting of the parties of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in late 2008 <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Improve coherence within the UN system (for example coordination between UNDP and UNEP) would lead to a more effective and coordinated cooperation with developing partners.</p>	
	<p>EU-Sustainable Development Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preparation of the EU position for the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. <p><u>Development aspect:</u> EU international commitments to poverty reduction and sustainable development as a global challenge (MDGs, WSSD, Monterrey, Doha, Paris-declaration, scaling-up of aid etc.)</p>	<p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 26 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Communication on measures to reduce deforestation - (poss.) Communication and Legislative proposal to prevent the placing on the EU market of illegally harvested timber or timber products

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p>Forest management and agricultural policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU Forestry Action Plan and the EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) - role of the EU in forest-related international processes, in particular the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) <p><u>Development aspect:</u> In order to protect biodiversity also outside of protected areas a sustainable forest management and sustainable agricultural policy in coherence with development policy is crucial.</p>	
<p>Climate change¹⁰ Para 106</p>	<p>EU position for a balanced and fair post-2012 regime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - further development of the European Climate Change Programme and its mitigation measures across sectors - integration of air transport into EU-emission trading <p><u>Development aspects:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impact of climate change on developing countries - adaptation and mitigation are crucial aspects for dealing with climate change - Financing opportunities for adaptation measures is the most vulnerable countries 	<p>ECOFIN 12 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EPC report on the efficiency of economic instruments for energy and climate change <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 3 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 98/70/EC as regards the specification of petrol, diesel and gas-oil and introducing a mechanism to monitor and the introduction of a mechanism

¹⁰ Para 106 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Climate change and development. Developing countries may be vulnerable to the negative consequences of climate change, which may jeopardise their efforts to achieve sustainable development and the MDGs.</p>	<p>to monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the use of road transport fuels and amending Council Directive 1999/32/EC, as regards the specification of fuel used by inland waterway vessels and repealing Directive 93/12/EEC</p> <p>- Effort Sharing Decision to achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets 2020</p> <p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <p>- Impact of climate change on international security and stability</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 26 JUNE 2008</p> <p>- Dedicated research agenda to support policy research activities and initiatives related to climate change</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p>Further development of the European Climate Change Programme and its mitigation measures and the Emission Trading Scheme</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> EU commitments for reduction exemplary to win developing countries for post 2012 regime</p>	<p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 25/26 FEBRUARY 2008 - Climate-Energy Legislative package</p> <p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 28 FEBRUARY 2008 - Climate-Energy Legislative Package</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 3 MARCH 2008 -Climate-Energy Legislative Package</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 26 JUNE 2008 - Climate-Energy legislative package</p> <p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 29/30 MAY 2008 - Climate-Energy Legislative Package - (poss.) Emissions of CO2 from passenger cars and light-commercial vehicles</p> <p>TRANSPORT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY COUNCIL 6 JUNE 2008 - Climate-Energy Legislative Package</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 26 JUNE 2008 - Emissions of CO2 from passenger cars and light-commercial vehicles</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
Biological diversity and Biosafety¹¹	<p>EU's priorities include progress in access and benefit sharing issues, forest biodiversity and protected areas, including marine biodiversity as well as financing of global nature protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - progress in access and benefit sharing issues, forest biodiversity and protected areas, including marine biodiversity as well as financing of global nature protection - Implement measures on the basis of the Commission Communication on Halting Biodiversity Loss by 2010 – and Beyond and of its Action Plan - advance the agenda of the Convention on Biological Diversity in preparing the intersessional meetings and its 9th Conference of the Parties which will be held in 2008 - Conference of the Parties to the Bonn Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals <p>Genetic resources: Access and Benefit Sharing, ABS :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop international regime under biodiversity convention <p><u>Development aspect:</u> International regime on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of genetic resources in a fair and sustainable way facilitates development. Involvement of Developing countries into the commercial use of their genetic</p>	<p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council Joint Action in support of the World Health Organisation activities in the area of laboratory bio-safety and bio-security <p>ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL 3 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ninth ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9) to the Convention on Biological diversity (CDP) - (poss.) Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 4) <p>GAERC – 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint Action in support of BTWC (Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention)

¹¹ Para 107 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	resources.	
	<p>Biosafety</p> <p>- Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety - to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology) - issues of liability and redress and capacity building</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Capacity Building in partner countries to support implementation of Cartagena Protocol in order to secure their decision making relevant for GMO introduction.</p>	
	<p>Incorporating biodiversity decisions into the market ("business and biodiversity")</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Global impact of private actors on biodiversity is substantial, means of development cooperation limited – integrate private sector for protection of biodiversity</p>	

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
Migration ¹²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - working on developing practical cooperation between MS asylum authorities - regular dialogue and practical cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination - implementation of the "Global Approach to Migration" and the 2006 Action Plan - continue the implementation of the 2006 Action Plan "Priority Actions focussing on Africa and the Mediterranean" - regional focus on eastern and south-eastern neighbouring regions of the EU - assess the state of negotiations on readmission agreements and on visa facilitation agreements with third countries and review the implementation of existing agreements. - improving practical cooperation on the return of third country nationals residing illegally in the territory of a Member State - European Strategy for legal migration, principles for a coherent approach to migration and integration policy - pursuing the work on establishment of integrated system for managing external borders - evaluation of FRONTEX - Monitoring of implementation of the European Programme for Action to tackle the critical shortage of health workers in developing countries (2007-2013) adopted by GAERC on 14 May 2007. The Commission will present a progress 	<p>INFORMAL JJUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 25-26 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practical cooperation in the field of asylum (step forward towards establishing second phase asylum system) <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL – 28-29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal for a Directive on common standards and procedures in MS for returning illegally staying third-country nationals (important part of a fight against illegal migration policy) - Proposal for a directive providing for sanctions against employers of illegally staying third country nationals (political agreement on the need for criminal sanction) important part of a fight against illegal migration policy - Proposal for a Council Decision establishing a European Migration Network <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 17-18 APRIL 2008</p> <p>-(poss.) Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of</p>

¹² Para 111-116 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p>report in 2008.</p> <p><u>Development aspects:</u> Development policy should be taken into account in the EU global approach to migration and the potential of some aspects of migration to development should be explored (address root causes, develop instruments to use potential of migration for development).,making migration a positive factor for development, through the promotion of concrete measures aimed at reinforcing their contribution to poverty reduction, including facilitating remittances and limiting the ‘brain drain’ of qualified people.</p>	<p>the Council amending the Common Consular Instructions on visas for diplomatic and consular posts in relation to the introduction of biometrics including provisions on the organisation of the reception and processing of visa applications - common position (step forward to launch the VIS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Proposal for a Directive on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals -Proposal for a Directive providing for sanctions against employers of illegally staying third –country nationals -(poss.) Draft Council Conclusions on further development of practical cooperation on asylum - (poss.) Communication from the Commission on future developments to improve border control and the management of migration flows - (poss.) Communication on the evaluation of the European Agency for the Management of operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspects:</u> Development policy part of the EU global approach to migration (address root causes, develop instruments to use potential of migration for development)</p>	<p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 5-6 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -(poss) Council conclusions on the strengthening of the external borders /FRONTEX -Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) no 562/2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) - application of VIS at borders - formal adoption (step forward to launch the VIS) -Proposal for a Council Directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment - discussion on certain issues (contribution to the need to manage migration flows) - Proposal for a Council Directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment <p>GENERAL AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COUNCIL , 16-17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Global Approach to Migration (contribution to its implementation)

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
Freedom and Security ¹³	<p>The objective of peace and international security will be pursued through the development of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) including the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). The main aim will remain to address terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, regional conflicts, state failure and organised crime. All of the EU's policy instruments, including trade policy and development policy, have a role to play in achieving this objective and will be used in a coherent and integrated manner.</p> <p><u>Development aspects:</u> The projects, which are to be achieved in the security area, will contribute importantly to the protection of values on which the EU is based. Further implementation of the security policy, which is directed to provide assistance to third states and consequently to eliminate the causes of terrorism and to establish the common security standards, will contribute to the higher level of internal security of the EU, while creating conditions for development in partner countries.</p> <p><u>Development aspects:</u> Peace and security are pre-condition for development and vice versa. Comprehensive EU-security strategy encompasses human security. ESDP and CFSP strategies and missions in coherence and complementarity with</p>	<p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL – 28-29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Council Decision on the implementation of the “Prüm Decision” on the stepping up of cross border cooperation - Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 17-18 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framework decision on combating terrorism: amendments (political agreement) - (poss.) Council Decision on the implementation of the “Prüm Decision” on the stepping up of cross border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross border crime – annex - EU Action plan for enhancing the security of explosives (political agreement) - (poss.) Communication on a European Border

¹³ Para 110-117,120 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	development policies.	<p>Surveillance System</p> <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 5-6 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Council Decision on the implementation of the “Prüm Decision” on the stepping up of cross border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross border crime – annex - Draft Council Conclusion on SEE OCTA - (poss.) Draft Council Conclusions on links between drugs trafficking and terrorism - (poss.) Draft Council Conclusions on Close Circuit TV (CCTV), - (poss.) Draft Council Conclusions on Explosives - (poss.) Draft Council Decision on the implementation of Decision 2007/.../JHA on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross-border crime
Integration and	- Particular priority will be given to developing a coherent approach to integration	EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE COUNCIL 14

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
intercultural dialogue ¹⁴	<p>policy and to fostering mutual understanding between people from different backgrounds and cultures through dialogue.</p> <p>- Year of Intercultural Dialogue (2008) will be prepared and launched by several high-profile events.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Intercultural dialogue is crucial for international cooperation and for integration processes – development cooperation can provide experience and lessons learned from dialogues with and within partner countries</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- Intercultural Dialogue and Youth</p> <p>EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE COUNCIL</p> <p>21/22 MAY 2008</p> <p>- Creating the European agenda for culture</p> <p>- European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (2008)</p> <p>- Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an action programme for the enhancement of quality in higher education and the promotion of intercultural understanding through cooperation with third countries (Erasmus Mundus)</p>
Crisis management and early warning mechanisms ¹⁵	<p>ESDP/Crisis management:</p> <p>- strategic partnership between the EU and NATO, and cooperation with key partners (notably the US, Russia, the African Union, the OSCE and the UN)</p> <p>- implementation of the Battlegroups concept.</p> <p>- development of the rapid response capabilities in a joint perspective, poss. review of the EU Military Rapid Response Concept (EU MRRC)</p> <p>- developing both military and civilian capabilities through the implementation of</p>	<p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) ESDP Operations</p> <p>- (poss.) EDA</p> <p>- (poss.) Capabilities</p> <p>- Military Capabilities: progress report on the implementation of the Maritime Dimension Study</p> <p>- Military Capabilities: report on Military Rapid Response</p>

¹⁴ Para 118 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

¹⁵ Para 133-137 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p>the Headline Goal 2010 and the Civilian Headline Goal 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - effective coordination of military and civilian strategic planning and command, in particular through the improved use of the Civ-Mil Cell. - EU crisis management exercises will be prepared and run with a particular effort on rapid response, comprehensive planning and EU-UN cooperation. <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Crisis management and early warning mechanisms are crucial for developing countries – crisis management should be linked with and accompanied by sustainable development strategy as soon as possible. LRRD mechanisms to be developed.</p>	<p>Concept</p> <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESDP: Presidency report
<p>Non-proliferation and Disarmament¹⁶</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction: priority to improving and strengthening the international regimes in this area - multilateral instruments for the control of small arms and light weapons and implement the EU SALW strategy 	<p>GAERC – 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council Decision for the destruction of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their ammunition in Ukraine - Council Joint Action in support of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace in a Timely and Reliable Manner illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) - Council Decision in relation to the EU’s contribution to

¹⁶ Para 138-139 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect</u>: security and development. Efforts towards non-proliferation of weapons (specially SALW) must be enhanced as regards developing countries, with a view to improve peace, security and good governance, which are crucial for sustainable development.</p>	<p>combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons in South East Europe</p> <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Six-monthly report on the implementation of the EU Strategy on SALW and their ammunition - Six-monthly report on the implementation of the EU Strategy on non-proliferation of WMD - (poss.) Updated list of priorities for the implementation of the WMD Strategy
<p>Security and Peace¹⁷</p>	<p>- support of peace and stability, in particular through cooperation with the UN and NATO. focus on assisting in the areas of conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction and stabilisation and transitional justice</p> <p>Slovenia will focus on the position of children affected by armed conflicts.</p> <p><u>Development aspect</u>: security and development. Efforts towards conflict prevention and post-conflict stabilisation must be enhanced as regards developing countries, with a view to improve peace, security and good governance, which are</p>	<p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children in situation of fragility (Children and armed conflict) <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conflict Prevention Report

¹⁷ Para 140 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	crucial for sustainable development.	
Congo ¹⁸	<p>Security Sector Reform in DRC: EUSEC DR Congo in the wider context of possible further SSR activities in the DRC</p> <p><u>Development Aspect:</u> EU coordinating role, crucial activity for stabilising situation.</p> <p>Military action should be accompanied by and coherent with development strategies.</p>	<p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) DR Congo</p> <p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) DR Congo</p>
Western Balkans ¹⁹	<p>- supporting and consolidating the Stabilisation and Association Process for the Western Balkans</p> <p>- completion of the Kosovo status negotiations and the implementation of the outcome</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> sustainable development and political stability of the region.</p>	<p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <p>-Council Conclusions on the Western Balkans</p> <p>-(poss.) Proposal for abolition of the “double checking”- system regarding steel products origination from FYROM</p> <p>-(poss.) Council Decisions on signature of SAA with Serbia</p> <p>-(poss.) Troika EU-Serbia</p> <p>GAERC 18/19 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- Western Balkans</p> <p>- FM Troika meeting with Montenegro</p>

¹⁸ Para 134 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

¹⁹ Para 141-142 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	Effective and efficient transport services supporting sustainable development, regional trade and political stability of the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Road Transport Treaty for the Western Balkans: Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate with the countries of the Western Balkans creating a Common Road Transport Area GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008 - (poss.) Western Balkans - Croatia Accession Conferences
European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)²⁰	<p>Neighbourhood Policy and Barcelona Process as a tool in support of political and economic reform in the countries neighbouring the European Union in order to promote security, stability and prosperity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following to the accession of Romania and Bulgaria on 1 January 2007, which extends the EU to the Black Sea, the prospects for developing a regional dimension for the Black Sea region could be explored - “finalise trade negotiations with a view to completing the Euro-Mediterranean free-trade area by 2010” 	<p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Black Sea Synergy - Council decision on the granting of Additional Autonomous Trade Preferences to the Republic of Moldova (ATP’s) GAERC 18/19 FEBRUARY 2008 - Black Sea Synergy/ ENP - Relations with Moldova (Council Conclusions on development of bilateral relations with Moldova)

²⁰ Para 143-144 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> sustainable development in the region – development aspects in trade negotiations should be respected</p>	<p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relations with Ukraine (Establishment of the EU position for the 12th Cooperation Council – Brussels, 10/11.3.08) - Relations with Belarus (Renewal/review of Council Common Position 2006/276/CFSP on restrictive measures against certain officials of Belarus) - Relations with Algeria (Establishment of the position of the EU for the 3rd Association Council) - Ukraine Cooperation Council - Algeria Association Council <p>GAERC 28/29 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Egypt Association Council <p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moldova Cooperation Council - (poss.) Council Conclusion on the European Neighbourhood Policy <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) ENP

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
Middle East ²¹	<p>Middle East Peace Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - institution building process of the Palestinian Authority - support efforts for sustainable development of the region <p><u>Development aspect:</u> sustainable (is the same) development of the region.</p> <p>Institution building for PA is relevant for security, stabilisation and therefore development in the region. Stabilisation of Iraq key to sustainable development and stability in the region.</p>	<p>GAERC 28/ 29 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council conclusions on Middle East Process - Iran - (poss.) Lebanon - (poss.) Iraq <p>GAERC 18/19 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Middle East Peace Process - (poss.) Iran - (poss.) Iraq - FM Association Council Lebanon - Relations with Lebanon (Establishment of the position of the EU for the 3rd Association Council) <p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Middle East Peace Process - (poss.) Lebanon - (poss.) Iran - (poss.) Iraq <p>GAERC 28/29 APRIL 2008</p>

²¹ Para 145 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Middle East Peace Process - (poss.) Lebanon - (poss.) Iran - (poss.) Iraq <p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Middle East Peace Process - (poss.) Lebanon - (poss.) Iran - (poss.) Iraq <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Middle East Peace Process - (poss.) Lebanon - (poss.) Iran - (poss.) Iraq
Afghanistan ²²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation of the EU Drugs Action Plan 2005-2008 - combating opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan - implementation of the EU-Afghan joint declaration (political dialogue). - evaluation of cooperation under the "Afghanistan Compact" 	<p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Afghanistan

²² Para 148 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> develop comprehensive strategies for the sustainable combat against opium poppy cultivation, including regional aspects.</p>	
Central Asia ²³	<p>- elaboration of an EU strategy on Central Asia and implementation</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> enhance sustainable economic development, poverty reduction and political stabilisation of the region</p>	<p>GAERC 28/29 APRIL 2008</p> <p>- Uzbekistan</p> <p>- (poss.) Council Decision on the eligibility of Central Asian countries under Council Decision 2006/1016/EC granting a Community guarantee to the EIB against losses under loans and guarantees for projects outside the Community</p> <p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Central Asia (Exchange of views on the progress of the implementation of the Strategy)</p> <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <p>- Central Asia</p>
China ²⁴	<p>- Framework Agreement and on developing a new strategic partnership with</p>	

²³ Para 152 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p>China</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Key role for development and stability of the Asian region; role of China as an emerging donor as well as a major trading partner of developing countries (special focus on environmental and social dimensions of sustainable trade)</p>	
<p>Regional cooperation with Asia²⁵</p>	<p>- developing and strengthening relations with Japan, China, India and Korea.</p> <p>- strengthening of cooperation with multilateral organisations, in particular ASEAN</p> <p>- Preparation of the Summit</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Support sustainable economic development, poverty reduction and regional political stabilisation and peace.</p>	<p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <p>- EU-Republic of Korea Framework Agreement: approval of the negotiation mandate</p>
<p>Pakistan, Southern Asia²⁶</p>	<p>- follow developments in Asia in the area of non-proliferation, notably with India and Pakistan</p>	<p>GAERC – 28/29 JANUARY 2009</p> <p>- (poss.) Pakistan</p>

²⁴ Para 153 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

²⁵ Para 153-154 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

²⁶ Para 154 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cooperation with multilateral organisations, in particular ASEAN - development of enlarged dialogue in ASEM format <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Sustainable economic development and stability of the region, security.</p>	<p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Burma/Myanmar <p>GAERC 28/29 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Burma/Myanmar - Renewal/review of Council Common Position 2007/248/CFSP of 23 April 2007 renewing restrictive measures against Burma/Myanmar, amended by Council Common Position on 19 November 2007 <p>ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COUNCIL 14 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASEM Finance Ministers Meeting on 16 June 2008
Africa ²⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Global Approach to Migration" and the 2006 Action Plan "Priority Actions focussing on Africa and the Mediterranean". - ESDP/Crisis management: development of the strategic partnership between the EU and NATO, and on strengthening cooperation with key partners (notably the US, Russia, the African Union, the OSCE and the UN). 	<p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Africa (Sudan/Darfur, Chad/CAR) <p>GAERC 18/19 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Sudan/Darfur

²⁷ Para 156-157 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p>- implementation of the EU's strategy for Africa</p> <p>- develop cooperation with the African Union and other African sub-regional organisations and will continue to support NEPAD. It will work with all these partners to help prevent and mediate in conflicts in Africa. Particular attention will be devoted to strengthening relations with South Africa.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Migration and development should be mutually reinforcing.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Security and conflict prevention and mitigation are a precondition for development. Strengthening regional organisations as a means to enhance regional stability and development.</p>	<p>- (poss.) Chad/CAR</p> <p>- (poss.) Somalia</p> <p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Zimbabwe</p> <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 17-18 APRIL 2008</p> <p>- Draft Council Conclusions authorising the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of visa waiver agreement between the European Community and Mauritius and Seychelles</p> <p>GAERC 28/29 APRIL 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Africa and regional conflicts</p> <p>- EU-Africa</p> <p>- Relations with the ACP States (Preparation of the 33rd session of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers – Draft Annotated Agenda)</p> <p>- (poss.) Adoption of Joint Action/Operation Plan G. Bissau</p>

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> Sustainable development processes should respect principles of partnership, dialogue, ownership and co-operation.</p>	<p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Africa (Sudan/Darfur, Chad/CAR) - EU Concept for strengthening African capabilities, including a Concept on EU-AU Joint Exercises <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) Africa (Sudan/Darfur, Chad/CAR) - Nigeria Troika
<p>Latin America, Caribbean²⁸</p>	<p>-- Emerging association agreements between EU and Central America and Andean Community respectively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing negotiations for an association agreement between EU and Mercosur - specific political dialogue with Brazil and Mexico <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Migration and development should be mutually reinforcing.</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Designing development friendly agreements that take development needs of partner countries into account is crucial for development of the regions.</p>	<p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL 28/29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation from the Commission to the Council to authorise the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of a short-stay visa waiver agreement between the European Community and Brazil <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 17-18 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Council Conclusions authorising the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of visa waiver agreement between the European Community and Antigua

²⁸ Para 158 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
		<p>and Barbuda, Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis.</p> <p>GAERC – 28/29 APRIL 2008 - Preparation of the EU-LAC Summit</p> <p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008 - (poss.) Action plan for the Strategic partnership with Brazil</p> <p>JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS COUNCIL 5/6 JUNE 2008 - Short-stay visa waiver agreement between the European Community and Brazil</p> <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008 - (poss.) Cuba</p>
UN ²⁹	support of an effective multilateral system is important in 2008	

²⁹ Para 159 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
	<p><u>Development aspect:</u> institutional reform of UN, including the reform of a UN development system enables a more efficient and effective support to partner countries in achieving their MDG development goals.</p>	
<p>Human Rights and Democracy³⁰</p>	<p>- mainstreaming human rights into the Union's external policy, with particular attention to the EU Human Rights Dialogues and Consultations with China, Iran and Russia, as well as to the implementation of the EU guidelines in the field of Human Rights. Slovenia will give its special attention to the implementation of the EU guidelines on the Children affected by armed conflicts.</p> <p>- assessing the first stage of the Common Asylum System</p> <p>- development of an action plan against problem of trafficking in human beings</p> <p><u>Development aspect:</u> Respect of Human Rights important in cooperation with partner countries – coherence within the EU with respect to Human Rights therefore crucial. With regard to combating root causes of trafficking and migration, a more specific focus on economic, social and cultural human rights is important.</p>	<p>GAERC 18/19 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Council Conclusions on Human Rights Dialogues Paper</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL 29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- Situation of people with disabilities</p> <p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) Human Rights Council</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL 9/10 JUNE 2008</p> <p>- Proposal for a Council Regulation extending the provisions of Regulation to nationals of third countries</p>

³⁰ Para 162 of the 18 Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

THEME	Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect	Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)
		<p>who are not already covered by these provisions solely on the ground of their nationality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decision on the European Year (2010) of fight against poverty and social exclusion
<p>Trade,</p> <p>globalisation,</p> <p>intellectual property rights³¹</p>	<p>Processes with relevance for development: all of the below named areas need to ensure coherence between trade and development policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Partnership Agreements - strengthening trade relations with particular countries and regions as well as the external dimension of competitiveness, in the light of discussions on the Commission's communication on the Union's Strategy for Market Access - developing an effective legal framework for the protection of intellectual property rights and to trade related aspects as well as to the improvement of market access conditions to third countries - Doha-Development Round - Lisbon strategy: Adaptation to meet the current challenges of globalisation 	<p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 21-22 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WTO/DDA <p>ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL 22 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lisbon Strategy = Follow-up to the December European Council - Single market Review <p>GAERC 28/29 JANUARY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) European partnerships

³¹ Para 163-164 of the 18-Month Programme of the German, Portuguese and Slovenian Presidencies

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
	<p>- Preparation on UNCTAD XII (Accra, 20-25 April 2008)</p> <p><u>Development aspects:</u> Trade is crucial for development. Association agreements and trade agreements in general should take development needs of the partner countries into account. With regard to EPAs, the development dimension is key to the agreements between EU and ACP countries. Importance of WTO/DDA and UNCATD XII.</p> <p><u>Development aspects:</u> Agriculture and trade should work together in supporting development..</p>	<p>- (poss.) Financial Regulation 10th EDF</p> <p>GAERC 18/19 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) WTO/DDA</p> <p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 25/26 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- Single Market Review</p> <p>- Lisbon Economic Reform process</p> <p>- Free Movement of Goods Package</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COUNCIL 29 FEBRUARY 2008</p> <p>- Commission Communication on the Single Market Review</p> <p>GAERC 10/11 MARCH 2008</p> <p>- (poss.) WTO/DDA</p> <p>- UNCTAD XII (Accra, 20-25 April 2008): state of play on preparations</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
		<p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 17-18 MARCH 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WTO/DDA <p>GAERC 28/29 APRIL 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) WTO/DDA - (poss.) Council Regulation applying a scheme of generalised tariff preferences <p>ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COUNCIL 14 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on dialogue with third countries - (poss.) Strategy for Customs in the EU- Identifying financial/economic impacts <p>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COUNCIL 19-20 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WTO/DDA <p>GAERC 26/27 MAY 2008</p>

<i>THEME</i>	<i>Issues as mentioned in the programme / related development aspect</i>	<i>Council formation / topics as listed on the indicative agendas (up to June 2008)</i>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) WTO/DDA - Economic Partnership Agreement - (poss.) 10 Guidelines on steps to discourage fraud, circumvention and violation of intellectual property rights - Commission Recommendation establishing guidelines on the information to be provided by third countries intending to export goods to the Community <p>COMPETITIVENESS (INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH) COUNCIL 29/30 MAY 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach (lead markets, cross-border investments) - (poss.) Communication on Innovation in Services <p>GAERC 16/17 JUNE 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (poss.) WTO/DDA