



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 11 February 2013

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LIMITE

**PESC 158
COSDP 134**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From : Foreign Relations Counsellors Working Party
of 17 January 2013

Subject : -First Common Civilian-Military Annual CSDP Lessons Learned and Best Practices Report for 2011
-Lessons of CSDP support to Security Sector Reform

1. The Foreign Relations Counsellors Working Party (RELEX) examined at its meeting of 17 January 2013, the financial, procurement and logistical elements of the First Common Civilian-Military Annual CSDP Lessons Learned and Best Practices Report for 2011 (doc. 11117/12) and the Lessons of CSDP support to Security Sector Reform (doc. 11107/12).
2. Delegations welcomed the thoroughness of the reports and the inclusion of financial and administrative issues in the lessons learned process. Delegations suggested that the Commission (FPI) should be closely associated in the elaboration of relevant aspects of such reports in the future.

3. With regard to the Common Civilian-Military Annual CSDP Lessons Learned and Best Practices Report, RELEX welcomed steps that have been taken since 2011 in respect of some of the issues identified, including, inter alia, the Permanent Warehouse, clarification of procurement in crisis situations and use of the preparatory measure instrument in specific cases; and urged that work on improving flexibility and responsiveness of the administrative and financial procedures for CSDP Missions should continue.
4. Delegations also looked forward to the upcoming discussion on two other issues raised in the report, the Shared Services Centre and the Commission Communication on *Rules for the Financial Management of the CFSP missions* of 26 June 2012, on the basis of expected inputs from the Commission and the European External Action Service.
5. RELEX noted that recommendations in both reports which have financial and institutional implications would require further discussion, based on specific instances. The Working Party noted in particular that rules it had previously agreed on transformation of posts remain in place.
6. In regard to future lessons learned exercises, RELEX encouraged the use of concrete examples to illustrate the motivation of recommendations.
