

II

(Acts adopted under the EC Treaty/Euratom Treaty whose publication is not obligatory)

DECISIONS

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 8 December 2008

amending the Council's Rules of Procedure

(2008/945/EC, Euratom)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 207(3) thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 121(3) thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 28(1) and Article 41(1) thereof,

Having regard to Article 2(2) of Annex III to the Council's Rules of Procedure ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas:

(1) Article 11(5) of the Council's Rules of Procedure (hereinafter referred to as Rules of Procedure) provides that when a decision is to be adopted by the Council by a qualified majority, and if a member of the Council so requests, it shall be verified that the Member States constituting the qualified majority represent at least 62 % of the total population of the European Union calculated according to the population figures set out in Article 1 of Annex III to the Rules of Procedure.

(2) Article 2(2) of Annex III to the Rules of Procedure, on detailed rules for implementing the provisions

concerning the weighting of votes in the Council, provides that, with effect from 1 January each year, the Council shall, in accordance with the data available to the Statistical Office of the European Communities on 30 September of the preceding year, amend the figures set out in Article 1 of that Annex.

(3) The Rules of Procedure should therefore be amended accordingly for 2009,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

In Annex III to the Rules of Procedure, Article 1 shall be replaced by the following:

'Article 1

For the purposes of implementing Article 205(4) of the EC Treaty, Article 118(4) of the Euratom Treaty, and the third subparagraph of Article 23(2) and Article 34(3) of the EU Treaty, the total population of each Member State for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2009 shall be as follows:

Member State	Population (× 1 000)
Germany	82 217,8
France	63 753,1
United Kingdom	61 224,1
Italy	59 619,3

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 2006/683/EC, Euratom of 15 September 2006 adopting the Council's Rules of Procedure (OJ L 285, 16.10.2006, p. 47).

Member State	Population (× 1 000)
Spain	45 283,3
Poland	38 115,6
Romania	21 528,6
Netherlands	16 405,4
Greece	11 213,8
Belgium	10 666,9
Portugal	10 617,6
Czech Republic	10 381,1
Hungary	10 045,4
Sweden	9 182,9
Austria	8 331,9
Bulgaria	7 640,2
Denmark	5 475,8
Slovakia	5 401,0
Finland	5 300,5
Ireland	4 401,3
Lithuania	3 366,4
Latvia	2 270,9
Slovenia	2 025,9

Member State	Population (× 1 000)
Estonia	1 340,9
Cyprus	789,3
Luxembourg	483,8
Malta	410,3
Total	497 493,1
Threshold (62 %)	308 445,7.

Article 2

This Decision shall take effect on 1 January 2009.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 8 December 2008.

For the Council
The President
 B. KOUCHNER