Brussels, 22 February 2008
PRE 011 (Presse)

The 2855th session of the Council of the European Union - **EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS** - will take place on 29 February (10.00) in the Justus Lipsius Building, Brussels, under the Presidency of **Ms Marjeta COTMAN, Minister for Labour, the Family and Social Affairs** of Slovenia

The following points will be discussed at this session :

-       Preparation of the Spring European Council

(a)   Key Messages based on (b) to (g)
-       Adoption
-       Policy debate
(Public debate)

(b)   Communication from the Commission to the European Council "Strategic report on the renewed Lisbon strategy for growth and jobs: launching the new cycle (2008-2010) - Keeping up the pace of change"

(c)   Joint Employment Report 2007/2008
-       Adoption

(d)   Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs (2008-2010)
Proposal for a Council Decision on Guidelines for the Employment Policies of the Member States (LA)
(Legal basis proposed by the Commission: Article 128(2) of the Treaty)
-       General approach

(e)   Commission Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the 2008 up-date of the broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States and the Community and on the implementation of Member States' employment policies
-       Political agreement

(f)   Joint Report on Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2008
-       Adoption

(g)   Report from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on equality between women and men, 2008

- Preparation of the Tripartite Social Summit
  - Exchange of views

- Communication from the Commission on the Single Market Review
  - Endorsement of joint Employment Committee/Social Protection Committee opinion

- Draft Council Resolution on the situation of disabled people in the European Union: the European Action Plan 2008-2009
  - Adoption/Political agreement

A press conference will be held by the President of the Council at the end of the session.

Public events that can be followed by video streaming:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/videostreaming

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