Preparation for the European Council meeting, 19-20 March 2009

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The Council examined draft conclusions prepared by the presidency for the spring meeting of the European Council, to be held in Brussels on 19 and 20 March.

The European Council is due to focus on:

- the economic and financial situation;
- energy and climate change;
- Eastern partnership;
- the Treaty of Lisbon.

As concerns the economic and financial situation, it will examine progress achieved in ensuring greater stability and better supervision and transparency in financial markets, implementation of the European economic recovery plan approved in December, the way forward for the EU's Lisbon strategy for growth and jobs, the functioning of the EU's internal market and preparations for the G20 summit in London on 2 April.

On energy and climate change, it is due to discuss means of ensuring the EU's energy security in the medium and longer term, as well as preparations for the UN climate change conference in Copenhagen in December.