

**COUNCIL DECISION**  
**of 20 December 2007**  
**amending the Council's Rules of Procedure**  
(2007/881/EC)

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 Articles 28(1) and 41(1) thereof,

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

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 2008,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

Article 1 of Annex III to the Rules of Procedure 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 2008 shall be as follows:

Member State	Population (× 1 000)
Germany	82 314,9
France	63 392,1
United Kingdom	60 823,8
Italy	59 131,3
Spain	44 474,6
Poland	38 125,5
Romania	21 565,1
Netherlands	16 358
Greece	11 171,7
Portugal	10 599,1
Belgium	10 584,5
Czech Republic	10 287,2
Hungary	10 066,1
Sweden	9 113,2
Austria	8 298,9
Bulgaria	7 679,3
Denmark	5 447,1
Slovakia	5 393,6
Finland	5 276,9
Ireland	4 319,4
Lithuania	3 384,9
Latvia	2 281,3
Slovenia	2 010,3
Estonia	1 342,4
Cyprus	778,7
Luxembourg	476,2
Malta	407,8
Total	495 103,9
Threshold (62 %)	306 964,4'

<sup>(1)</sup> 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).

*Article 2*

This Decision shall take effect on 1 January 2008.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 December 2007.

*For the Council*  
*The President*  
F. NUNES CORREIA

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