

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : III-210.3

By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives and Mr Sören Lekberg and Mr Göran Lennmarker, national parliament representatives.

**Status : - Member: Hjelm-Wallén, Lekberg and Lennmarker
- Alternate: Petersson**

3. A Council Decision shall establish the specific procedures for guaranteeing rapid access to appropriations in the Union budget for urgent financing of initiatives in the framework of the common foreign and security policy, and in particular for preparatory activities for tasks as referred to in [Article 32(1) of Part One] of the Constitution.

Preparatory activities for tasks as referred to in [Article 32(1) of Part One] of the Constitution which are not charged to the Union budget shall be financed by a start-up fund made up of Member States' contributions.

The Council shall adopt **acting by unanimity** ~~by a qualified majority~~ on a proposal from the Minister for Foreign Affairs:

- (a) the procedures for setting up and financing the fund, in particular the amounts allocated to the fund and the procedures for reimbursement;
- (b) the procedures for administering the fund;
- (c) the financial control procedures.

When it is planning a task as referred to in [Article 32(1) of Part One] of the Constitution which cannot be charged to the Union's budget, the Council shall authorise the Minister for Foreign Affairs to use the fund. The Minister for Foreign Affairs shall report to the Council on the implementation of the remit.

The decision on the procedures for financing the fund, including the amounts allocated, will determine the size of the Member State's contribution to the fund from their national budgets. It is not acceptable that a Member State may be obliged to pay a certain amount to the fund, without having giving its assent to such a decision. Such a procedure would, inter alia, infringe on the competence on the National Parliaments to decide on the allocation of national budgetary means. Thus, the decisions have to be taken by unanimity.

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