



13 March 2013

(13-1366)

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Council for Trade in Services

Original: English

### **NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III:3 OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES**

The following notification from the delegation of the European Union, dated 12 March 2013, is being circulated to the Members of the Council for Trade in Services.

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The following notification is made pursuant to GATS Article III:3 and relates to measures adopted by the European Union in 2012. Given that there is no common understanding among WTO Members on when a measure "significantly affects trade in services" within the meaning of GATS Article III:3 and that the European Union cannot make a positive determination on this issue, it is therefore notifying measures that may be relevant to trade in services without prejudice to the interpretation of the phrase "significantly affect trade in services" in Article III:3.

#### **1 MEMBER NOTIFYING**

EU

#### **2 NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE**

Article III, paragraph 3, of the General Agreement on Trade in Services

#### **3 DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE**

15/12/2012

#### **4 AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE MEASURE**

Member States of the EU

#### **5 DESCRIPTION OF THE MEASURE**

- a. Directive 2012/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21/11/2012 establishing a single European railway area (recast)
- b. Brief summary of the content with a focus on potential effect on services trade

The intention is to create an internal railway market in the EU and remove unnecessary technical and administrative barriers which are hindering the development of the single European railway area.

#### **6 MEMBERS SPECIFICALLY AFFECTED, IF ANY**

None

**7 TEXT AVAILABLE FROM**

- Enquiry point ☐
- WTO Secretariat ☐
- Other sources (address, fax and telephone of other body) ☒;

*Official Journal of the European Union L 343, 14/12/2012, p. 32; <http://eur-lex.europa.eu>*

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