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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	10709/24 + COR 1
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Implementing Decision extending temporary protection as introduced by Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 - Statement by Poland

Delegations will find in annex statement by Poland for the minutes of Coreper and of the Council.

Statement by the Polish delegation

Poland firmly stands with Ukraine and its people in their struggle for independence, sovereignty and to defend Ukraine's territorial integrity.

We are ready to continue our unwavering support to those who were forced to leave Ukraine and seek protection in the EU.

In the wake of Russia's repeating atrocious attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, despite our continuous efforts to provide more humanitarian aid and civil protection assistance, we must also be prepared to support those who may still arrive.

This is a common challenge and as such it should be addressed in a manner of solidarity and through cooperation between Member States and EU institutions, therefore Poland would like to express its gratitude to the Commission for its ongoing engagement and swift publication of this decision further extending temporary protection.

Acknowledging that the refugees' decisions on Member State in which they apply for temporary protection are based on many factors intrinsic to people's movements and that they result in Member States bearing unequal burdens, we call for adequate and fair financial support of those hosting the largest numbers of refugees.

While retaining the freedom of movement within the EU for Ukrainian refugees we must strive to further improve and effectively use the tools that help us avoid any abuse of temporary protection regimes, including through double registration.

Achieving a necessary level of preparedness also calls for more decisive EU action in response to illegal migration flows straining Member States' asylum systems and depleting their resources, often without a connection to genuine protection needs. To this aim we need to swiftly put forward new solutions enabling us to reduce these flows and properly address migration instrumentalisation as a security issue.