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'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III) (**first reading**)
- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons

1. On 14 June 2018 the Commission sent its proposal¹, based on Article 212(2) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The Committee of the Regions delivered its opinion on 6 December 2018².
3. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 12 December 2018³.
4. The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on 27 March 2019⁴.

¹ 10184/18 + ADD 1.

² OJ C 86, 7.3.2019, p. 295–309.

³ OJ C 110, 22.3.2019, p. 156–162.

⁴ 7802/19 + COR 1.

5. On 28 June 2021, the Permanent Representatives Committee confirmed the final compromise text on the above draft Regulation.
6. Subsequently, on 1 July 2021 the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) endorsed the final compromise text and by the means of a letter of 15 July 2021, the Chair of AFET informed the Chair of the Permanent Representatives Committee that the European Parliament should, at its second reading, approve the Council's position at first reading (following a legal-linguistic review) without amendments.
7. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision (EU) 2021/1142⁵, that the Council uses the written procedure for the adoption of its position at first reading on the draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III) as set out in document 6604/21, and the statement of reasons as set out in document 6604/21 ADD 1.
8. At the same time, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to decide that the statements by the Commission, as set out in ADD 1 to this Note, be published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
9. The statements by Bulgaria and Poland are set out in ADD 2 to this Note.
10. If adopted, the Council's position and the statement of reasons should be transmitted to the European Parliament no later than 9 September 2021, in view of the Plenary sitting of 13-16 September 2021.

⁵ Council Decision (EU) 2021/1142 of 12 July 2021 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 247, 13.7.2021, p. 91–92).