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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (part 2)/Council
Subject:	COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1343 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic of Bulgaria to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak – Adoption

1. Council Regulation (EU) 2020/672 of 19 May 2020 on the establishment of a European instrument for temporary support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency (SURE) following the COVID-19 outbreak¹ (hereafter '-SURE Regulation') lays down the framework enabling the Union to provide financial assistance to Member States that are experiencing, or are seriously threatened with, a severe economic disturbance caused by the COVID-19 outbreak for the financing, primarily, of short-time work schemes or similar measures aimed at protecting employees and the self-employed and, as an ancillary, some health-related measures.
2. In accordance with Article 6 (1) of the SURE Regulation, financial assistance is to be made available by means of a Council implementing decision adopted on the basis of a proposal from the Commission.
3. Temporary support under the SURE Regulation was granted to Bulgaria by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1343 on 25 September 2020².

¹ OJ L 159, 20.5.2020, p. 1–7

² OJ L 314, 29.9.2020, p. 10–12

4. Following Bulgaria's request of 23 May 2022 for additional financial assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 25 August 2022, submitted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision EU 2020/1343 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Republic of Bulgaria (ST 11933/22).
4. The abovementioned proposal was examined at the Financial Counsellors Working Party on 5 September 2022 and subsequently revised by legal-linguistic experts.
5. The technical preparatory work can now be considered complete, and the draft text of the Council Implementing Decision can be submitted to the Council for formal adoption.
6. It should be noted that in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 297(2) of the TFEU and with Article 18(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, this Council decision, once adopted, is to be notified to the Member State, to which it is addressed, by the Secretary-General of the Council or a Director-General acting on his behalf.
7. Pursuant to Article 122(2) of the TFEU, the European Parliament should be informed by the President of the Council of this Council Implementing Decision.
8. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm its agreement on the text and suggest that the Council adopt, as an "A" item on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting, the Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1343 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic Bulgaria to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak, as set out in document ST 11991/22, revised by legal-linguistic experts.
