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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	ST 13816/19
Subject:	Draft COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the International Maritime Organization during the 31st session of its Assembly, on the adoption of amendments to resolution A.658(16) on Use and fitting of retro-reflective materials on life-saving appliances, and the adoption of a resolution on Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC)

INTRODUCTION

1. On 6 November 2019, the Commission transmitted the above-mentioned proposal to the Council.
2. The proposal concerns the establishment of the Union position to be taken during the 31st session of the IMO Assembly with regard to:
 - 1) the adoption of amendments to resolution A.658(16) on Use and fitting of retro-reflective materials on life-saving appliances; and
 - 2) the adoption of a resolution on Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC)

3. The amendment to resolution A.658(16) on Use and fitting of retro-reflective materials on life-saving appliances and the resolution on Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC), which are expected to be adopted during the 31st session of the IMO Assembly, will be capable of decisively influencing the content of Union law, namely Directive 2014/90/EU¹, the Commission implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1397² and Regulation (EC) No 391/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council³.

WORK WITHIN THE COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES

4. The proposal was examined by the Shipping Working Party on 8 November and 15 November 2019. Discussions mainly concentrated on the legal aspects.
5. The Council Legal Service expressed orally its opinion on the legal aspects.

CONCLUSION

6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to examine and endorse the draft decision, as set out in document ST 14212/19, prepared by the legal-linguistic experts, and transmit it to the Council for adoption.

¹ Directive 2014/90/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on marine equipment and repealing Council Directive 96/98/EC (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 146)

² Commission implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1397 of 6 August 2019 on design, construction and performance requirements and testing standards for marine equipment and repealing Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/773 (OJ L 237, 13.9.2019, p. 1)

³ Regulation (EC) No 391/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on common rules and standards for ship inspection and survey organisations (OJ L 131, 28.5.2009, p. 11)