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**TRANS 44
COWEB 12
ELARG 7**

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	14708/17 TRANS 506 COWEB 137 ELARG 85 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Ministerial Council set up under the Treaty establishing the Transport Community as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Council – Adoption

1. On 22 November 2017 the Commission submitted to Council a proposal on the subject above. The Ministerial Council is the highest body under the EU-Western Balkans Transport Community Treaty¹, meeting on an annual basis. The adoption of Rules of Procedures by this body shall ensure its proper functioning.
2. Between 12 July and 9 October 2017, the European Union and six Western Balkan partners signed the Transport Community Treaty. It applies provisionally in accordance with its Article 41(3) among most of the Parties. The Republic of Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have meanwhile ratified the Treaty.

¹ The Treaty's text was published in OJ L 278, 27.10.2017, p. 3.

3. Following a Council decision of 4 December 2017 on the Union's position in the Transport Community's Ministerial Council as regards the seat of the organisation², the Ministerial Council of the Transport Community on 6 December 2017 met for the first time and decided that Belgrade will be the seat of the organisation.
4. On 28 November 2017, 8 and 26 January 2018, the Working Party on Land Transport examined the Commission proposal relating to the Ministerial Council's Rules of Procedure, agreeing on some changes to the draft Council decision and the draft Rules of Procedure annexed to it.³
5. In light of the above, the Committee of Permanent Representatives is requested to invite the Council:
 - to adopt the decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Ministerial Council set up under the Treaty establishing the Transport Community as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Council, as set out in document ST 5438/18 which has been reviewed by lawyer-linguists.

² See document ST 14682/2/17 REV 2.

³ See document ST 5407/17 and REV 1.