



European Council

**Brussels, 2 February 2016
(OR. en)**

EUCO 7/16

NOTE

To:	Delegations
Subject:	Draft declaration of the European Commission on a subsidiarity implementation mechanism and a burden reduction implementation mechanism

Delegations will find attached the draft declaration of the European Commission on a subsidiarity implementation mechanism and a burden reduction implementation mechanism.

DRAFT

DECLARATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

on a subsidiarity implementation mechanism and a burden reduction implementation mechanism

The Commission will establish a mechanism to review the body of existing EU legislation for its compliance with the principle of subsidiarity and proportionality, building on existing processes and with a view to ensuring the full implementation of this principle.

The Commission will draw up priorities for this review taking into account the views of the European Parliament, the Council and the national parliaments.

The Commission will propose a programme of work by the end of 2016 and subsequently report on an annual basis to the European Parliament and the Council.

The Commission is fully committed to and will continue its efforts to make EU law simpler and to reduce regulatory burden for EU business operators without compromising policy objectives by applying the 2015 Better Regulation Agenda, including in particular the Commission's Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme (REFIT). Cutting red tape for entrepreneurship, in particular small and medium size enterprises, remains an overarching goal for all of us in delivering growth and jobs.

The Commission, within the REFIT platform, will work with Member States and stakeholders, towards establishing specific targets at EU and national levels for reducing burden on business, particularly in the most onerous areas for companies, in particular small and medium size enterprises. Once established, the Commission will monitor progress against these targets and report to the European Council annually.