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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	ST 6957/22
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the International Maritime Organization during the 105th session of the Maritime Safety Committee and the 46th session of the Facilitation Committee on the adoption of a resolution on performance standards for survival craft portable two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus, revising resolution MSC.149(77) and amendments to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL) – Adoption

INTRODUCTION

1. On 7 March 2022, the Commission sent the above proposal to the Council.
2. The proposal concerns the establishment of the Union position during the 105th session of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 105) and the 46th session of the Facilitation Committee (FAL 46) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
3. MSC 105 is expected to adopt amendments to several resolutions with a view to modernising the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). The Union should support these amendments as they will improve current performance standards.

4. FAL 46 is expected to adopt amendments to the Annex to the FAL Convention. The Union should support these amendments as they will bring the Annex closer to the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 and the agreed business rules for implementing the latter, namely by making electronic transmission through a single window mandatory, preventing data elements from being repeated, preventing paper forms from being used for the transmission of information, and waiving the requirement for manual signatures.

WORK IN THE COUNCIL PREPARATORY BODIES

5. The Shipping Working Party examined the proposal at its meetings on 11, 18 and 23 March 2022. At the latter meeting, the Working Party agreed on the draft Decision.
6. The Commission raised concerns about some of the amendments made to its original proposal and announced its intention to make a statement for the minutes of the Permanent Representatives Committee and of the Council.
7. Following the agreement reached at working-party level, the text of the draft Council Decision was finalised by the Council's legal/linguistic services.

CONCLUSIONS

8. The Permanent Representatives Committee is asked to examine and approve the draft Decision, as finalised by the legal/linguistic experts and set out in 7532/22, and submit it to the Council for adoption.
9. The European Parliament will be informed of the adoption in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU.