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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on mercury, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008 (first reading) - Adoption of the legislative act

1. On 2 February 2016, the Commission submitted its proposal¹, based on Article 192(1) and Article 207 TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 25 May 2016². The Committee of the Regions was consulted.
3. The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on the Commission proposal on 14 March 2017. The outcome of voting in the European Parliament reflects the compromise agreement reached between the institutions and should, therefore, be acceptable to the Council³.

¹ 5771/16.

² 7220/17.

³ OJ C 303, 19.8.2016, p. 122.

4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore asked to confirm its agreement and to suggest that the Council:

- approve the European Parliament's position, as set out in PE-CONS 4/17, as an 'A' item at a forthcoming meeting, with the Bulgarian, Hungarian and Polish delegations abstaining;
- order that the statements in the addendum to this note be entered in the minutes of that meeting.

If the Council approves the European Parliament's position, the legislative act will be adopted.

After being signed by the President of the European Parliament and the President of the Council, the legislative act will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.
