

Council of the European Union

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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Draft Council conclusions on the Special Report No. 4/2016 by the European Court of Auditors: "The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanisms and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact"
	- Presidency text

Delegations will find attached a Presidency text on the Draft Council conclusions on the Special Report No. 4/2016 by the European Court of Auditors: "The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanisms and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact" with a view to the joint meeting of the Research/Atomic Questions Working Party on 6 June 2016.

<u>Draft</u>

Council conclusions on the Special Report No. 4/2016 by the European Court of Auditors: "The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanisms and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact"

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

RECALLING

- its conclusions on improving the examination of special reports drawn up by the Court of Auditors in the context of the discharge procedure¹;
- WELCOMES the Special Report No. 4/2016 by the European Court of Auditors entitled: "The European Institute of Innovation and Technology must modify its delivery mechanisms and elements of its design to achieve the expected impact"²;
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGES the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Report and RECOGNISES in particular that:
 - the main reasons for setting up the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) are well founded;
 - at the end of the period covered by the Special Report, the first three knowledge innovation communities (KICs) had brought together more than 500 partners from academia, research and business and had offered new opportunities to carry out innovative activities and promoted an entrepreneurial culture;

¹ Doc. 7515/00 + COR 1.

² <u>http://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECADocuments/SR16_04/SR_EIT_EN.pdf</u>

- in order to enhance the EIT's overall effectiveness and to achieve its objectives some of its key concepts and operational processes need to be further improved.
- TAKES NOTE of the Commission's replies which accompany the Special Report and ACKNOWLEDGES that both the Commission and the EIT agree to the main recommendations of the Special Report.
- WELCOMES the actions already undertaken by the EIT and the Commission in 2015; and WELCOMES the high level expert panel set up by the Commission to make recommendations for the EIT reform.
- 5. INVITES the Commission and the EIT to pay utmost attention to the recommendations of the Special Report and CALLS on the Commission and the EIT to report to the Council on the actions taken by mid-2017.
- 6. LOOKS FORWARD to the results of the review of the EIT in the context of the interim evaluation of the Horizon 2020 by the end of 2017, with a view to examining the findings in detail, including possible changes to the Regulation establishing the EIT and to discuss the role of the EIT in the context of the future EU research, development and innovation Framework Programme.