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TRANS 330

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	ST 9130/22
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the 14th meeting of the Committee of Technical Experts of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail as regards the modifications to the uniform technical prescriptions concerning telematics applications for freight and the modification of Annex B to the ATMF Uniform Rules on derogations, and in the written procedure of the Revision Committee of OTIF as regards the modification to Appendix G to COTIF – Adoption

1. On 20 May 2022, the Commission submitted the abovementioned proposal to the Council. It relates to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) within the framework of the Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF), whose mission is to establish common rules for the international carriage of passengers and goods by rail between its Member States. The Union acceded to COTIF in 2011 by means of Council Decision 2013/103/EU of 16 June 2011.

2. The proposal concerns the work of the Committee of Technical Experts. At its 13th meeting in June 2021, that Committee agreed to amend Articles 3a and 15 of the Uniform Rules concerning the Technical Admission of Railway Material used in International Traffic (ATMF – Appendix G to COTIF) to take account of developments in EU law on the certification of entities in charge of maintenance, and to modify the Consolidated Explanatory Report accordingly¹. It therefore asked the Revision Committee to make these amendments; the vote will take place by written procedure after the 14th meeting of the Committee of Technical Experts.
3. At its 14th meeting, the Committee of Technical Experts will be called upon to approve an amendment to the Uniform Technical Prescriptions (UTP) for Telematics Applications for Freight (TAF), aiming at alignment with the provisions in force in the European Union, as well as a comprehensive revision of Annex B to the ATMF Uniform Rules (Derogations), aiming, inter alia, at simplification and clarification.
4. The 14th meeting of the Committee of Technical Experts will be held in Berne on 14 and 15 June 2022.
5. The Commission presented its proposal to the Working Party on Land Transport on 23 May 2022. The Commission representative explained that the texts prepared for the Revision Committee had been revised, at the same time as the approval of the draft decision in the Commission, to take account of an opinion given by another committee within OTIF; these amendments were awaited. The Council Secretariat had prepared a working document containing an updated draft text to reflect these developments².
6. Several delegations maintain scrutiny reservations. The Presidency invited delegations to supplement their opinions with any written comments by 30 May 2022.

¹ For the position of the European Union for this meeting, see OJ L 204, 10.6.2021, p. 39.

² WK 7327/22.

7. As no delegation requested that the working party meet again to discuss the draft EU position as adapted by the working document, deliberations at working-party level can now be considered closed.
 8. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to approve the draft Decision as set out in 9552/22¹, after finalisation of the text by the legal/linguistic experts, and to submit it to the Council for adoption.
 9. Once the Decision has been adopted, the European Parliament will be informed about it.
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¹ This document will be circulated, first in one language, by 7 June 2022 at the latest, and in all languages by 10 June 2022.