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INST 222
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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: EUROPEAN COUCIL DECISION establishing the composition of the
European Parliament
- Adoption

1. According to Article 14(2) TEU:

"The European Parliament shall be composed of representatives of the Union's citizens. They shall not exceed seven hundred and fifty in number, plus the President. Representation of citizens shall be degressively proportional, with a minimum threshold of six members per Member State. No Member State shall be allocated more than ninety-six seats.

The European Council shall adopt by unanimity, on the initiative of the European Parliament and with its consent, a decision establishing the composition of the European Parliament, respecting the principles referred to in the first subparagraph."

2. Article 4 of the European Council Decision of 28 June 2013 establishing the composition of the European Parliament¹ sets out an obligation for a revision of that Decision sufficiently far in advance of the beginning of the 2019-2024 parliamentary term, on the basis of an initiative of the European Parliament, with the aim to establish a system which would allow for allocation of the seats in an objective, fair, durable and transparent way, based on the principle of degressive proportionality and taking account of any change in the number of the Member States and the demographic trends in their population.
3. At its sitting of 7 February 2018, the European Parliament adopted, on the basis of Article 14(2) TEU, a proposal for a Decision of the European Council establishing the composition of the European Parliament².
4. On 24 May 2018, upon expiry of a written procedure, the European Council decided to seek the consent of the European Parliament on the draft European Council Decision establishing the composition of the European Parliament, as set out in document EUCO 7/18 INST 92 POLGEN 23 CO EUR 18.
5. On 13 June 2018, the European Parliament gave its consent on the above-mentioned draft European Council Decision.
6. Coreper/Council is invited to :
 - recommend to the European Council to adopt the Decision establishing the composition of the European Parliament, as set out in document EUCO 7/18 INST 92 POLGEN 23 CO EUR 18 REV 1.
 - order that the statement in the addendum to this note be entered in the minutes of the Council meeting.

¹ OJ L 181, 29.6.2013, p. 57–58

² Doc. 6031/18 + COR 1