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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
No. prev. doc.:	COM(2025) 258 final
Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 as regards obligations of economic operators concerning battery due diligence policies - Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament

1. In October 2024, the European Council called on all EU institutions, Member States and stakeholders, as a matter of priority, to take work forward, notably in response to the challenges identified in the reports by Enrico Letta ('Much more than a market') and Mario Draghi ('The future of European competitiveness'). The Budapest declaration of 8 November 2024 subsequently called for "*launching a simplification revolution*", by ensuring a clear, simple and smart regulatory framework for businesses and drastically reducing administrative, regulatory and reporting burdens, in particular for SMEs.
2. On 26 February 2025, as a follow-up to EU Leaders' call, the Commission put forward two 'Omnibus' packages, aiming to simplify existing legislation in the fields of sustainability and investment respectively. Subsequently on 16 May 2025, the Commission adopted its third

Omnibus package related to agriculture, and on 21 May 2025 a fourth Omnibus package on Small mid-caps, digitalisation and common specifications.

3. As part of the fourth Omnibus, the Commission put forward a proposal to amend Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 regarding the obligations of economic operators concerning battery due diligence policies. The main goal of this proposal is to postpone the date of application of the due diligence obligations of the Regulation by two years, from 18 August 2025 to 18 August 2027, to allow economic operators placing batteries on the EU market to better prepare.
4. As the original date of application of the obligations stemming from the Regulation was set for 18 August 2025, the Presidency has treated the proposal with priority. It was presented at the meeting of the Antici Group (Simplification) on 4 June and discussed at the meeting on 10 June.
5. Broad agreement on the proposal is emerging, pending positive scrutiny reserves. Some of the Member States asked the Commission for urgent publication, in accordance with Article 48(5) Article of Regulation (EU) 2023/1542, of the guidelines as regards the application of the due battery diligence requirements, and clarification of the Commission plans in that regard.
6. Furthermore, it is understood that the European Parliament is favourable to reaching agreement with the Council on the proposal rather swiftly, having chosen a simplified procedure aiming for a vote at its Plenary session in July.
7. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to agree on a mandate for the Presidency for negotiations with the European Parliament in line with the Commission's proposal, with a view to reaching an agreement at first reading with the European Parliament on that basis swiftly.
