

Brussels, 6 July 2021  
(OR. en, fr)

10442/21  
CRS CRP 23

**SUMMARY RECORD**  
**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE**  
14, 16 and 18 June 2021

**I. Adoption of the agenda**

9768/2/21 REV 2 OJ CRP2 23 + CM 3663/1/21 REV 1  
9733/21 OJ CRP1 23

The Committee adopted the agenda.

**II. Approval of the "I" items**

The Committee approved the "I" items as set out in the Annex.

**III. Discussion items**

**COREPER (PART 2)**

**MONDAY 14 JUNE 2021**

**Foreign Affairs**

2. 18th EU-Canada Summit (Brussels, 14 June 2021)

*State of play*

The Committee took note of the update on the preparations of the summit and reached an agreement on the text of the joint statement.

Statement by Poland

"Poland understands the formulation "gender equality" as referring to the equality between women and men, in line with art. 2 of the Treaty on European Union and art. 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU."

3. EU-United States Summit (Brussels, 15 June 2021)  
*State of play*

The Committee examined the draft joint statement and took note of the update on the preparations of the summit.

Statement by Poland

"Poland understands the formulation "gender equality" as referring to the equality between women and men, in line with art. 2 of the Treaty on European Union and art. 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU."

**General Affairs**

4. Implementing a secure videoconferencing solution for the European Council and the Council 9457/21 + COR 1  
*Exchange of views*

The Committee agreed to launch the project on secure VTCs in accordance with documents 8146/1/21 and 9457/21 + COR1 based on the following understanding :

- Formal Council and European Council meetings are by definition physical meetings. Use of informal VTCs of ministers or Leaders must be exceptional and should only take place in duly justified cases.
- The GSC will immediately and in parallel undertake the necessary studies with a view to providing a capacity for secure physical and virtual meetings capable of operating with full language interpretation.
- In early 2022, Coreper will take stock of progress on secure VTCs and receive the studies on the physical and virtual meetings with full interpretation with a view to taking a decision on them.

5. Meeting of the Council (General Affairs) on 22 June 2021:  
Preparation

- a) Enlargement and Stabilisation and Association Process  
*Exchange of views*

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

- b) Conference on the Future of Europe  
*Information from the Presidency*

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

- c) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Presidency provided further information regarding the Council meeting.

## **Economic and Financial Affairs**

### 6. Meeting of the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 18 June 2021: Preparation

- a) Economic Recovery in Europe: Implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility  
*State of play / Exchange of views*

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

- b) Implementation of the Stability and Growth Pact:  
Recommendation under the Excessive Deficit Procedure  
*Adoption*

9433/21

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

- c) European Semester 2021: Recommendations on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes  
*Adoption*

9253/21

9083/21 + COR 1

9677/21

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

- d) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The Presidency provided further information regarding the Council meeting.

## **WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021**

## **Justice and Home Affairs**

### 8. Annex I of Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/912 of 30 June 2020 on the temporary restriction on non-essential travel into the EU and the possible lifting of such restriction *Approval*

The Committee agreed on the addition of several countries in Annex I.

## **General Affairs**

### 5. Meeting of the Council (General Affairs) on 22 June 2021: Preparation

- d) Preparation of the European Council on 24-25 June 2021:  
Conclusions  
*Exchange of views*

8271/21

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

## **Foreign Affairs**

### 11. Meeting of the Council (Foreign Affairs) on 21 June 2021: Preparation

#### a) Current Affairs

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

#### b) Belarus

*Exchange of views*

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

#### c) Iraq

*Exchange of views*

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

#### d) Latin America

*Exchange of views*

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

#### e) Other items in connection with the Council meeting

The EEAS provided further information regarding the Council meeting.

### 12. Meeting of the Council (Foreign Affairs) on 12 July 2021: Agenda

The EEAS presented the main items on the agenda.

## **Economic and Financial Affairs**

### 7. Meeting of the Council (Economic and Financial Affairs) on 13 July 2021: Agenda

The Presidency presented the main items on the agenda.

## **General Affairs**

13. Accession negotiations with the Republic of North Macedonia  
and the Republic of Albania  
*Information from the Presidency*  
*Exchange of views*

The Committee held an exchange of views.

## **Justice and Home Affairs**

63. EU Asylum Agency Regulation 9724/21  
*Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament*

The Committee provided a mandate to the Presidency to start negotiations with the European Parliament on the basis of the Presidency compromise text set out in 9724/21.

### **Joint statement by Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain**

"Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain consider that the legislative proposals presented by the Commission in 2016 on the reform of the Common European Asylum System and in 2020 within the new Pact on Migration and Asylum constitute a legislative package whose elements are closely interlinked. The adoption of the European Asylum Agency Regulation is an important and necessary step that does not affect this package approach. Consequently, the objective remains the adoption of a fully integrated and coherent set of rules, ensuring the effective application of the principle of solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility, a result that should be achieved in the course of the negotiations on the different proposals currently under discussion."

## **COREPER (PART 1)**

### **Telecommunications**

38. Regulation on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union 9636/21  
*Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament*

The Committee prepared a revised mandate for a forthcoming trilogue.

### **Transport**

39. Directive amending Directive 1999/62/EC on Eurovignette (road charging Directive)  
*Presidency debriefing on the outcome of the trilogue*

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Presidency on the outcome of the trilogue of 15 June 2021.

### **Environment**

40. Regulation amending Aarhus Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006 9672/21  
*Preparation for the trilogue*

The Committee prepared a revised mandate for the forthcoming trilogue.

### **Health**

41. Regulation on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) 9576/21  
*Preparation for the trilogue*

The Committee prepared a revised mandate for the forthcoming trilogue.

### **Agriculture and Fisheries**

42. Meeting of the Council (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 28 and 29 June 2021: Preparation

1. Council Decision requesting the Commission to submit a study on biological control agents 9520/21 + COR 1  
Adoption 9112/21

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

2. Regulation amending various Regulations as regards fisheries control  
*General approach*

9390/21 + ADD 1

The Committee prepared this item for the Council meeting.

### **Fisheries**

43. Regulation establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean amending Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627  
*Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament*

9168/21

9167/21

The Committee prepared a revised mandate for a forthcoming trilogue.

#### **IV. Any other business**

##### **COREPER (PART 2)**

Follow-up to G7, EU-Canada and EU-US Summits

The Committee took note of the information provided by the PEC CAB on the above-mentioned meetings.

##### **COREPER (PART 1)**

None.

---

**"I" items approved****COREPER (PART 2)****WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021****Judicial Affairs**

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 14. Case T-157/21 (RG v. Council)<br><i>Information note for the Permanent Representatives Committee<br/>(Part 2)</i> | 9561/21<br>JUR<br>INST |
|---|------------------------|

**Institutional Affairs**

15. **Minutes of Council meetings**  
*Approval*

FAC 22.03.2021	7397/21 + ADD 1
----------------	-----------------

**Appointments**

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 16. Two alternate members (CZ) of the Committee of the Regions<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9614/21<br>9353/21<br>CDR |
|---|---------------------------|

**Economic and Financial Affairs**

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 17. ECA SR No 09/2021 on disinformation affecting the EU<br><i>Designation of a Working Party</i>            | 9627/21<br>FIN                       |
| 18. Council position on DAB No 3/2021: Entering the surplus of the<br>financial year 2020<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9681/21<br>9682/21<br>7862/21<br>FIN |
| 19. Regulation on Quotas for certain agricultural and industrial<br>products<br><i>Adoption</i>              | 9505/21<br>8609/21<br>UD             |
| 20. Regulation on Suspensions on certain agricultural and industrial<br>products<br><i>Adoption</i>          | 9509/21<br>8613/21<br>UD             |
| 21. Reforming the World Customs Organization<br><i>Establishment of the EU position</i>                      | 9649/21<br>UD                        |

## **General Affairs**

- |     |  |                            |
|-----|--|----------------------------|
| 22. | EP Resolutions and decisions (June 2021)   | 9609/21<br>PE-RE           |
| 23. | Conclusions on the functioning of the General Court<br><i>Approval</i>   | 9730/21<br>COUR<br>INST    |
| 24. | Council Decision entrusting appointing authority powers to the Office for the Administration and Payment of Individual Entitlements (PMO) for occupational disease and accident insurance<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9303/21<br>8321/21<br>STAT |
| 25. | Conclusions on maritime security<br><i>Approval</i>  | 9439/21<br>POLMAR          |
| 26. | Conclusions on ECA SR No 6/2021 on financial instruments in cohesion policy at closure of the 2007-2013 period<br><i>Approval</i>  | 9584/21<br>COH             |
| 27. | Conclusions on a comprehensive approach to accelerate the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development implementation<br><i>Approval</i>  | 9600/21<br>SUSTDEV         |

### **Statement by the Commission**

"The Commission confirms that it will take forward its commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs through its internal and external action policies. As part of the dialogue on annual programming as outlined in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making, the Commission is open to engage with the Council both before and after the adoption of its annual work programme on the implementation of the SDGs based on the annual SDG monitoring report published by Eurostat. The Commission will draw up its future work programmes in line with its institutional prerogatives.

With respect to multiannual programming, the Commission considers that it is essential to maintain an efficient and comprehensive procedure to implement the programming elements of the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making. Therefore, the Commission will consider, if appropriate, the preparation of one report at the end of the legislative term in order to facilitate the discussions on multi-annual programming at the start of the next legislative term."

## **Justice and Home Affairs**

28. EU Drugs Action Plan 2021 - 2025 9516/21  
*Approval* 9373/21  
CORDROGUE

### **Statement by Poland**

"Equality between women and men is enshrined in the treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Poland ensures equality between women and men within the framework of the Polish national legal system in accordance with internationally binding human rights instruments and within the framework of fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, in place where the Action Plan refers to "gender" Poland will interpret it as meaning "sex" in line with art. 10, art. 19 para 1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. At the same time Poland will interpret "gender equality" as equality between women and men, in accordance with art. 2 and art. 3 of the Treaty on European Union and art. 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. "

29. Council Decision on implementing rules concerning the DPO 9040/21  
and restrictions of certain data subjects' rights 9148/21  
*Adoption* DATAPROTECT

## **Foreign Affairs**

30. Council Decision on EDF contributions: 2nd instalment 2021 9500/21  
*Adoption* 9499/21  
ACP
31. Burundi – revocation of appropriate measures under Article 96 9664/21  
of the Cotonou Agreement - lines to take COAFR  
*Approval*
32. Council Decision on the conclusion of a Protocol with Tunisia 9438/21  
to take account of Croatia's accession to the EU 12294/18  
*Adoption* MAMA
33. EU-Bosnia and Herzegovina Stabilisation and Association 9666/21  
Council (Brussels, 13 July 2021) COWEB  
*Establishment of the EU position*

34. Conclusions on EU Approach to Cultural Heritage 9678/21  
*Approval* CSDP/PSDC

Statement by Hungary

"Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Hungary ensures equality between women and men within the framework of the Hungarian national legal system in accordance with internationally binding human rights instruments and within the framework of fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, Hungary interprets the concept of "gender" in the text as a reference to sex in line with art. 10, art. 19 para 1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as well as art. 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights."

35. Council Decision appointing the European Union Special Representative for Central Asia 9371/21  
*Adoption* 9370/21  
CORLX
64. Council Decision appointing the European Union Special Representative for the Sahel 9346/21  
*Adoption* 9345/21  
CORLX

Joint statement by Poland and Hungary

"Poland and Hungary understand the formulation "gender equality" as referring to the equality between women and men, in line with art. 2 of the Treaty on European Union and art. 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU."

65. Council Decision appointing the European Union Special Representative for the Horn of Africa 9349/21  
*Adoption* 9348/21  
CORLX

Joint statement by Poland and Hungary

"Poland and Hungary understand the formulation "gender equality" as referring to the equality between women and men, in line with art. 2 of the Treaty on European Union and art. 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU."

66. Council Decision on European Union Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (EU BAM Rafah) 9017/21  
*Adoption* 9016/21  
CORLX
67. Council Decision on the European Union Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS) 9020/21  
*Adoption* 9019/21  
CORLX

- |     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 68. | Council Implementing Decision and Implementing Regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Belarus<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9449/21 + COR 1<br>9446/21 + ADD 1<br>+ ADD 1 COR 1<br>9448/21 + ADD 1<br>+ ADD 1 COR 1<br>CORLX |
| 69. | Council Decision and Implementing Regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Myanmar/Burma<br><i>Adoption</i>        | 9555/21<br>9552/21<br>9554/21<br>CORLX   |

### **EU positions for international negotiations**

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 37. | Council Decision on the EU position in the Council of Members of the International Olive Council (IOC) on trade standards applying to olive oils and olive pomace oils<br><i>Adoption</i> | 8589/21<br>8588/21<br>8638/21<br>PROBA |
|-----|---|--|

#### Statement by the Commission

"The Commission considers that the Council Decision should be addressed to the Commission, and therefore considers the changes to Article 3 to be inappropriate.

The expression of the Union position in a body set up by an agreement is an act of external representation of the Union which, in accordance with Article 17(1) TEU, is the institutional prerogative of the Commission.

The Commission reserves all its rights in this regard."

#### Joint statement by France and Italy

"Le projet de décision du Conseil sur la position à prendre au nom de l'Union européenne dans le cadre du Conseil des membres du Conseil oléicole international (COI) sur les normes commerciales concernant les huiles d'olive et grignons d'olives, qui se réunira les 28-30 juin prochains, prévoit que l'Union européenne apporte son soutien à la décision d'adoption du « paquet de normes commerciales », y compris la proposition relative à l'abaissement de la limite inférieure du niveau d'acide palmitique de 7,5% à 7%.

La France et l'Italie appellent à la vigilance quant à la mise en œuvre de cette proposition qui, si elle était effectivement adoptée par le COI, pourrait compliquer la détection des fraudes et porter ainsi atteinte à la protection du consommateur et à la défense de l'authenticité des huiles d'olive, pour les raisons notamment exposées dans les commentaires circulés par la France le 26 mai 2021 (cf. document WK 6025/2021 REV 1 ADD 2).

En effet, bien que classé dans les paramètres d'analyse « non critiques », et bien qu'il ne soit pas le seul moyen analytique pour détecter la fraude, l'indice d'acide palmitique est un moyen rapide, facile et accessible de n'importe quel laboratoire pour déterminer si une huile d'olive a été altérée ou non par d'autres huiles de moindre qualité. A l'issue de recherches techniques récentes, non disponibles au moment des échanges au niveau des groupes d'experts, la France a pu évaluer que l'abaissement de l'indice inférieur d'acide palmitique de 0,5% permettrait d'altérer les huiles d'olive (d'indice palmitique généralement élevé, de l'ordre de plus de 7,5%) en les mélangeant avec d'autres huiles de moindre qualité (à l'indice palmitique inférieur comme le colza ou le tournesol) dans une proportion non négligeable, à hauteur de 14%, sans possibilité de détecter rapidement la fraude.

La France et l'Italie souhaitent, dans ce contexte, que la mise en œuvre éventuelle d'une telle mesure, d'une part fasse l'objet d'analyses techniques complémentaires approfondies, en complément de celles présentées lors de la réunion du COI d'octobre 2020 (analyse en nombre sur plusieurs années et incidence sur les autres critères d'analyse), et d'autre part qu'elle soit assortie d'un dispositif de suivi et de monitoring précis de son impact, s'agissant notamment de l'authenticité des produits mis sur le marché.

La France et l'Italie souhaitent, enfin, que cette mesure fasse l'objet d'un bilan d'étape lors de la tenue d'un prochain COI./."

### **Other items**

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 36. Council Decision amending Decision 2013/488/EU on the security rules for protecting EU classified information<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9488/21 + COR 1<br>9297/21<br>CSC |
|--|-----------------------------------|

### **FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021**

#### **Foreign Affairs**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 70. Council Decision in support of the Cyber Security and Resilience and Information Assurance Programme of the OPCW in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of WMD<br><i>Adoption</i> | 8409/21<br>8408/21<br>CORLX            |
| 71. Council Decision in support of the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery<br><i>Adoption</i>         | 9529/21<br>9528/21<br>CORLX            |
| 72. Libya restrictive measures - Council Decision and Regulation<br><i>Adoption</i>  | 9757/21<br>9754/21<br>9756/21<br>CORLX |

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 73. | Council Decision, Implementing Regulation and Regulation in view of the situation in Belarus<br><i>Adoption</i>   | 9846/21 + COR 1<br>9743/21 + ADD1<br>+ ADD 1 COR 1<br>9745/21 + ADD1<br>+ ADD 1 COR 1<br>9748/21<br>CORLX |
| 74. | Meeting between the President of the European Council and the President of Kenya (Brussels, 21 June 2021) - joint statement to the press<br><i>Approval</i>   | 9895/21<br>COAFR  |
|     | <u>Joint statement by Poland and Hungary</u>  |   |
|     | "Poland and Hungary understand the formulation "gender equality" as referring to the equality between women and men, in line with art. 2 of the Treaty on European Union and art. 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU." |   |
| 75. | EU-Indonesia Green Agenda<br><i>Approval</i>  | 9870/21<br>9875/21<br>COASI   |

## **COREPER (PART 1)**

**WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021**

### **Institutional Affairs**

#### **Written questions**

44. Replies to questions for written answer submitted to the Council by Members of the European Parliament  
*Adoption by silence procedure*
- a) Maria Walsh (PPE) 8262/1/21 REV 1  
"Humanitarian situation in Armenia"
- b) João Ferreira (The Left) 9014/21  
"Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons"
- c) Petra Kammerevert (S&D) 8973/21  
"Mutual recognition of qualifications obtained abroad"
- d) Laura Huhtasaari (ID) 8674/21  
"Rejection of the EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment on account of the human rights situation in China and the unsatisfactory nature of China's obligations under the agreement"
- e) Pierre Larroustou (S&D), Cindy Franssen (PPE), Rasmus Andresen (Verts/ALE), Olivier Chastel (Renew), Nora Mebarek (S&D), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE), Petros Kokkalis (The Left), Jonás Fernández (S&D), Giuliano Pisapia (S&D), Pascal Arimont (PPE), Marie Toussaint (Verts/ALE), Marc Angel (S&D), Eugenia Rodríguez Palop (The Left), Sylvie Guillaume (S&D), Niels Fuglsang (S&D), Manon Aubry (The Left), Benoît Lutgen (PPE) 8976/21  
"Immediate adoption of a tax on financial speculation by pioneering countries to win climate, employment and health battles"

45. **Minutes of Council meetings**  
*Approval*

AGRIFISH 22-23.03.2021 7396/21  
+ ADD 1 REV 1

#### **Appointments**

46. One member of the Scientific and Technical Committee 9453/21  
*Adoption* 9362/21  
RECH

- |     |   |                           |
|-----|---|---------------------------|
| 47. | One member (PT) of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers<br><i>Adoption</i> | 8981/21<br>8980/21<br>SOC |
| 48. | One member (SL) of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9402/21<br>SOC            |

### **Letter**

- |     |   |               |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 49. | Appointment of the Chairperson of a Board of Appeal of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)<br><i>Approval of a letter</i> | 9478/21<br>PI |
|-----|---|---------------|

### **EU positions for international negotiations**

- |     |  |                                    |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|
| 50. | Council Decision on the EU position on the discharging of domestic wastewater by inland waterways vessels carrying between 12 and 50 passengers<br><i>Adoption</i> | 9654/21<br>9655/21<br>TRANS<br>MAR |
|-----|--|------------------------------------|

### **Agriculture**

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 51. | EU Guidelines for the fourth AU-EU Agriculture Ministerial Conference<br><i>Approval</i>  | 9496/21<br>AGRI                        |
| 52. | Regulation on the extension of the term of Community plant variety rights<br><i>Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament</i> | 9611/21 + ADD 1<br>AGRILEG<br>SEMENCES |

### **Internal Market and Industry**

- |     |  |                       |
|-----|--|-----------------------|
| 53. | Conclusions on intellectual property policy<br><i>Approval</i> | 9381/21 + ADD 1<br>PI |
|-----|--|-----------------------|

Statement by Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Slovakia

"We support the creation of a protection system of geographical indications (hereafter 'GIs') for non-agricultural products based on a *sui generis* intellectual property right at EU level. We underline that by its accession to the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications (hereafter 'Geneva Act'), the EU undertook the obligation of establishing such a protection system. The commitment to protect GIs, regardless of whether agricultural or non-agricultural products are concerned, undoubtedly results from Article 9 of the Geneva Act. Thus, the question of whether a system for non-agricultural products is to be established, has already been answered and the focus should now be placed on the question of "how".

Despite the fact that the EU is a member of the Lisbon system for the international registration of appellations of origin and GIs, it is currently not possible for EU producers to protect their non-agricultural GIs under the Geneva Act. Additionally, the continuous fragmentation of legal protection of non-agricultural GIs within the EU may have implications for the functioning of the European Single Market, for European and regional competitiveness and for EU trade relations with third countries.

We are convinced that the introduction of an EU-wide *sui generis* GI protection for non-agricultural products would have an overall positive effect on trade, employment, SMEs and rural development. Moreover, it can powerfully advance commercial and economic interests while fostering local values such as culture and tradition. It would be a boost for tourism in the producers' regions, thus also playing an important role in the recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic. Such a harmonized system would increase the uniqueness and attractiveness of the protected products by guaranteeing their quality and effective protection against losses caused by counterfeiting and imitations, including within EU trade agreements.

We recall that the European Parliament is also of the view<sup>1</sup> that it would be highly recommended for the EU to adopt legislation on non-agricultural GIs in order to fully exploit the positive economic effects of protecting the distinctiveness and quality of such products.

For these reasons, we call on the Commission to submit a legislative proposal to that effect in line with the timeline set out in the Commission's Intellectual Property Action Plan."

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 54. Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 as regards the transitional provisions of certain machinery to address the impact of COVID-19 crisis<br><i>Adoption of the legislative act</i> | 9703/21<br>PE-CONS 39/21<br>MI |
|--|--------------------------------|

## **Transport**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 55. Council Decision on the conclusion of the Wet Lease Agreement between the United States of America, the European Union, Iceland, and the Kingdom of Norway<br><i>Adoption</i>  | 9260/21 + COR 1<br>11645/1/20 REV 1<br>10584/19<br>11100/19<br>AVIATION |
| 56. Arrangement between the European Commission and the Ministry for Science, Technology and Innovation of Colombia on cooperation in the field of Global Navigation Satellite Systems and related industrial applications<br><i>Information note for the Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)</i> | 9321/21<br>TRANS  |

---

<sup>1</sup> European Parliament resolution of 6 October 2015 on the possible extension of geographical indication protection of the European Union to non-agricultural products (2015/2053(INI)), point 7; and European Parliament resolution of 25 March 2021 on establishing an EU strategy for sustainable tourism (2020/2038(INI)), point 64

## **Other items**

57. Impact assessment within the Council: 2021 Annual Report 9735/21  
*Endorsement* IA

Statement by Spain, Lithuania, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Poland, Bulgaria and Germany

"The Council Conclusions on Better Regulation of 27 May and the Commission Communication on Better Regulation of 29 April both outline the increased importance of Better Regulation and evidenced based policy making in the context of the unprecedented challenges the EU is facing and the ambitious policy agenda foreseen in the coming years.

The Annual Report on impact assessment within the Council is an important tool to analyse the actual state of play of Better Regulation and to look for concrete improvements in the future. As stated in the report itself, its main tasks are to present scenarios and recommendations aimed inter alia at ensuring proper follow-up and implementation of the provisions of the Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016.

With respect to this main task, especially two areas would benefit from increased analysis as well as more reflection on improvements in the Annual Report:

- (1) The IIA states that for impact assessments on delegated acts and implementing measures the same criteria apply as for legislative proposals like regulations or directives. The Annual Report should in the future analyse also the implementation of this provision of the IIA.
- (2) The Council has committed itself in the IIA to carry out impact assessments in relation to its substantial amendments when it considers this to be appropriate and necessary for the legislative process. So far, the Council has not carried out any impact assessment. This fact has been underlined on several occasions by the Commission (for instance in the recent Commission Communication on Better Regulation) and by many stakeholders. From that perspective, it would be beneficial if the Annual Report presented scenarios and recommendations for improving the implementation of this provision of the IIA in the future.

Being a report on the topic of Better Regulation, the Annual Report needs especially to pay attention to a solid evidence base and a clear representation of the state of play based on the criteria agreed in the IIA. In this regard, the overview tables presented in the Annex would benefit in the future from an alignment to the criteria set out in the IIA and of consistent as well as complete information for instance on which proposals are part of the Commission Work Programme and the Joint Declaration. Also, additional calculations on missing impact assessments that are not based on the criteria set out in the IIA (like in para 36 of the 2021 Annual Report) should be handled with great care.

In order to increase the future quality and comprehensiveness of the Annual Report, improvements of the drafting process with regard to timing and sequencing would be important. It would be very beneficial to have an in-depth discussion of the draft report in the Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Better Regulation) and a finalisation of the report in the Mertens Group. For both steps sufficient time needs to be allocated."

## Delegated or Implementing Acts

### Agriculture

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 58. Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of cadmium in certain foodstuffs<br><i>Decision not to oppose adoption</i>   | 8977/21<br>8236/21 + ADD 1<br>DENLEG    |
| 59. Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of lead in certain foodstuffs<br><i>Decision not to oppose adoption</i>  | 9537/21<br>8275/21 + ADD 1<br>DENLEG    |
| 60. Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of tropane alkaloids in certain foodstuffs<br><i>Decision not to oppose adoption</i>   | 9569/21<br>8333/21 + ADD 1<br>DENLEG    |
| 61. Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 as regards maximum levels of ergot sclerotia and ergot alkaloids in certain foodstuffs<br><i>Decision not to oppose adoption</i>   | 9593/21<br>8338/21 + ADD 1<br>DENLEG    |
| 62. Commission Regulation (EU) .../... of XXX amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards maximum residue levels for mandestrobin in grapes and strawberries<br><i>Decision not to oppose adoption</i> | 9668/21<br>8767/21 + ADD 1-2<br>AGRILEG |
-