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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
No. prev. doc.:	7696/25
Subject:	European Court of Auditors' special report No 06/2025: EU actions tackling sea pollution by ships – Not yet out of troubled waters - Approval

1. On 4 March 2025, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) published its special report No 06/2025 entitled “EU actions tackling sea pollution by ships – Not yet out of troubled waters”¹.
2. On 2 April, the Permanent Representatives Committee instructed the Working Party on Shipping (SWP) to examine the special report², in accordance with the rules laid down in the Council conclusions on improving the examination of special reports drawn up by the Court of Auditors in the context of the discharge procedure³.
3. The SWP examined the special report at its meeting on 7 July following a presentation by the ECA.

¹ OJ C, C/2025/1500, 05.03.2025

² Doc. 7697/25

³ Doc. 7515/00 + COR 1

4. In its audit, the ECA examined whether the Commission's and Member States' actions tackling ship-source pollution were well designed, implemented, enforced and monitored. Based on its findings, the ECA recommended that the Commission should improve the monitoring and effectiveness of pollution alert tools, strengthen the monitoring of Member States' mandatory checks, follow up scaling-up issues in EU-funded projects and enhance reporting and monitoring on the environmental status of marine waters.
 5. Following the examination by the SWP, the Presidency informed delegations of its proposal not to draw up Council conclusions in response to the special report, given that the report concerns matters which are not linked to the discharge procedure and therefore does not fall within the scope of the Council's internal procedures on the follow-up to the ECA's special reports as set out in doc. 7515/00 + COR 1.
 6. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm that no Council conclusions should be drawn up regarding the ECA special report No 06/2025.
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