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'A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
On:	12 October 2020
Subject:	Adoption of a Draft Council Recommendation on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic - Statement

The following statement will be inserted in the minutes of the Council:

Austrian declaration

"In connection with the text proposal for a Council recommendation on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic Austria states the following:

Wherever possible, the preferred option should be to undergo a test.

Concerning the mapping of risk areas when considering restrictions of free movement, we state that Austria explicitly supports such a mapping in itself. However, the proposed thresholds and criteria absolutely need to be adapted in the near future, as they do not reflect the current epidemiological situation in most of the EU Member States and as the epidemiological situation is not expected to significantly change in the coming weeks and months.

The Austrian position on this Council recommendation therefore is: abstention."