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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the use of renewable and low-carbon fuels in maritime transport, and amending Directive 2009/16/EC **(first reading)** - Adoption of the legislative act = Statement

Statement for the minutes by the Republic of Austria

Overall, the FuelEU Maritime Regulation represents an important step towards the decarbonisation of maritime transport. Austria is in favour of ambitious targets and welcomes the higher GHG reductions and the added RFNBO sub-quota. In this context, however, the equivalence clause is seen as problematic because it undermines this level of ambition and allows the use of 'low-carbon fuels' to achieve the sub-quota. The inclusion of these fuels stands in stark contrast with the required level of ambition and the achievement of the climate targets set.

Austria regrets the inclusion of the equivalence clause, which also allows 'low-carbon fuels' to be counted towards the achievement of the RFNBO sub-quota, but can, in the spirit of compromise, agree to the compromise text.