Council of the European Union

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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
No. Cion doc.:	10102/20 + ADD 1 - COM(2020) 632 final + Annex
Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION on the submission, on behalf of the European Union, of proposals to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II and IX to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal for consideration at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union at that meeting as regards proposals by other Parties to that Convention to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II, VIII and IX to that Convention - Decision to use the written procedure for adoption

1. On 7 August 2020, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the submission, on behalf of the European Union, of proposals to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II and IX to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal for consideration at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union at that meeting as regards proposals by other Parties to that Convention to amend Annex IV and certain entries in Annexes II, VIII and IX to that Convention.

The proposals will, if adopted, result in improved legal clarity and therefore facilitate controls of shipments of waste and the prevention of illegal shipments. The proposals will also support the environmentally sound management of waste at global level and contribute to the transition towards a global circular economy.
The fifteenth Conference of the Parties is scheduled to take place on 19-30 July 2021.
The proposals need to be received by the Basel Secretariat on 4 December 2020 at the latest.

2. The members of the Working Party on International Environment Issues (WPIEI Basel) and the members of the Working Party on the Environment (WPE) considered the Commission's proposal for a Council Decision at their informal videoconferences on 21 September and 5 October, respectively. Based on these discussions and on delegations' written comments, the Presidency prepared a draft Council Decision. After an informal silence procedure that ended on 21 October, the WPE agreed to the draft Council Decision, as set out in document 11252/20 REV1.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is, therefore, invited to:
   - agree to the use of the written procedure for the adoption of this Decision, in accordance with Article 12(1) of the Council Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision 2020/430[1] The written procedure should be launched immediately after the Committee's agreement, with the deadline for replying to be set for Friday, 20 November 2020 cob;
   - recommend to the Council to:
     - adopt, by qualified majority, the draft Council Decision set out in document 12285/20 (text finalised by the Jurist-Linguists);
     - decide to publish the Decision in the Official Journal; and
     - decide to inform the European Parliament of the adoption.

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[1] Council Decision (EU) 2020/1253 of 4 September 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970 and doc. 12437/20 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 294, 8.9.2020, p. 1–2).