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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	13067/21
Subject:	Draft Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2021 evaluation of **Greece** on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of **return**

1. Following the Council's adoption of Regulation (EU) No 1053/2013 establishing an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis, a team of experts from the Member States and the Commission carried out an evaluation of Greece on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of return in 2021.

2. In accordance with that Regulation, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation designed to address the deficiencies identified in the course of the evaluation and ensure that Greece applies all Schengen rules related to return correctly and effectively.

3. The Working Party for Schengen Matters, including the Mixed Committee partners Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, approved the proposal for the Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation on 13 October 2021.

4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore asked to recommend that the Council adopt the draft Council Implementing Decision, as set out in 13067/21, as an 'A' item at a forthcoming meeting.