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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
Subject: Proposals for Council implementing decisions amending Council implementing decisions granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Greece, Lithuania and Portugal to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak
- Adoption

1. Council Regulation (EU) 2020/672 of 19 May 2020 on the establishment of a European instrument for temporary support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency (SURE) following the COVID-19 outbreak¹ (hereafter -'SURE Regulation') lays down the framework enabling the Union to provide financial assistance to Member States that are experiencing, or are seriously threatened with, a severe economic disturbance caused by the COVID-19 outbreak for the financing, primarily, of short-time work schemes or similar measures aimed at protecting employees and the self-employed and, as an ancillary, some health-related measures.

¹ OJ L 159, 20.5.2020, p. 1–7

2. In accordance with Article 6 (1) of the SURE Regulation, financial assistance is to be made available by means of a Council implementing decision adopted on the basis of a proposal from the Commission.
3. Temporary support under the SURE Regulation has been granted to **Croatia** by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1348 of 25 September 2020; to **Cyprus** by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1344 of 25 September 2020 and by amending Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/680 of 23 April 2021; to the **Czech Republic** by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1345 of 25 September 2020; to **Greece** by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1346 of 25 September 2020 and by amending Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/679 of 23 April 2021; to **Lithuania** by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1350 of 25 September 2020 and by amending Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/678 of 23 April 2021; to **Portugal** by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1354 of 25 September 2020. The list of national measures eligible to financing under the SURE Regulation in Portugal was amended by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/99 of 25 January 2022.
4. Following **Croatia's** request on 25 July 2022 for additional financial assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 20 September 2022, adopted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision EU 2020/1348 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Republic of Croatia (ST 12673/22).

5. Following **Cyprus'** request on 5 September 2022 for additional assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 28 September 2022 adopted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1344 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Republic of Cyprus (ST 12973/22).
6. Following **Czechia's** request on 22 September 2022 for additional assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 3 October 2022, adopted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1345 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Czech Republic (ST 13003/22).
7. Following **Greece's** request on 1 September 2022 for additional assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 28 September 2022 adopted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1346 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Hellenic Republic (ST 12966/22).
8. Following **Lithuania's** request on 8 August 2022 for additional assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 20 September 2022, adopted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1350 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Republic of Lithuania (ST 12676/22).

9. Following **Portugal's** request on 17 September 2022 for additional assistance under the SURE Regulation, the Commission, on 28 September 2022, adopted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1354 granting temporary support under the SURE Regulation to the Portuguese Republic (ST 12964/22).
10. The abovementioned proposals were examined at the Financial Counsellors Working Party on 11 October 2022 and subsequently revised by legal-linguistic experts.
11. The technical preparatory work can now be considered complete, and the draft texts of the above-mentioned draft Council Implementing Decisions can be submitted to the Council for formal adoption.
12. It should be noted that in accordance with the third subparagraph of Article 297(2) of the TFEU and with Article 18(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, these Council decisions, once adopted, are to be notified to the Member States, to which they are addressed, by the Secretary-General of the Council or a Director-General acting on his behalf.
13. Pursuant to Article 122(2) of the TFEU, the European Parliament should be informed by the President of the Council of these Council Implementing Decisions.

14. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm its agreement on the texts of the above-mentioned proposals for amending Council implementing decisions, set out in the documents listed below, revised by legal-linguistic experts, and suggest that the Council adopt them, as an "A" item on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting:

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| Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1348 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic of Croatia to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak | ST 12701/22 |
| Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1344 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic of Cyprus to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak | ST 12974/22 |
| Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1345 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Czech Republic to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak | ST 13032/22 |
| Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1346 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Hellenic Republic to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak | ST 12968/22 |
| Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1350 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic of Lithuania to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak | ST 12702/22 |
| Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1354 granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Portuguese Republic to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak | ST 12967/22 |