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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Council Recommendation on developing social economy framework conditions
	- Statement by the Hungarian delegation

Delegations will find in the annex a statement by the Hungarian delegation in relation to the abovementioned Council Recommendation.

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STATEMENT BY HUNGARY

Hungary is committed to quality job creation and lends its full support to organic, bottom-up social innovation and particularly, measures for reducing poverty, supporting labour market integration and social inclusion of disadvantaged groups as well as for increasing social solidarity. The Hungarian legal framework provides, inter alia, considerable tax incentives for young persons, large families and employers of persons with disabilities.

Nevertheless, Hungary considers that the draft Council Recommendation on Developing Social Economy Framework Conditions provides for restrictive, one-size-fits-all solutions and envisages a considerable reduction of the Member States' room for manoeuvre to define their social, labour market, employment, fiscal and economic policies and risks interfering with the structure of the national legal systems and public administrations. Hungary is particularly concerned that the Recommendation, despite its legal basis on employment, seeks to adopt recommendations on the restructuring of Member State's tax system. Furthermore, Hungary deems that the section on implementation, monitoring and evaluation is not in line with the legal nature of a recommendation, especially due to their excessively detailed and restrictive character. We believe that imposing a uniform approach in this regard creates a risk to disregard the widely different societal structures of Member States. Consequently, the implementation of the Recommendation would potentially create a net burden not only on the national public administrations and the European Union, but even on the societies and persons that it purports to assist.

Consequently, Hungary votes abstention regarding the Council Recommendation on Developing Social Economy Framework Conditions.