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LIMITE

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Council Decision on the participation of the Kingdom of Norway in the PESCO project Military Mobility

1. On 11 December 2017, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2017/2315¹ establishing permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) and determining the list of participating Member States.
2. On 5 November 2020, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639² establishing the general conditions under which third States could exceptionally be invited to participate in individual PESCO projects.
3. Article 2(4) of that Decision provides that, based on a notification by the coordinator or coordinators of a PESCO project, and following an opinion by the Political and Security Committee (PSC), the Council shall take a decision in accordance with Article 46(6) of the Treaty and Article 9(2) of Decision (CFSP) 2017/2315 as to whether the participation of the third State which requested to participate in that project meets the conditions set out in Article 3 of Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639.

¹ OJ L 331, 14.12.2017, p. 57–77

² OJ L 371, 6.11.2020, p. 3–9

4. On 29 July 2022, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ('the UK') sent to the coordinator of the PESCO project Military Mobility its request for participation in that PESCO project, in accordance with Article 2(1) of Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639. The project members then assessed, on the basis of the information provided by the UK, whether it complies with the general conditions, in accordance with Article 2(2) of Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639
5. On 7 October 2022, the coordinator of the PESCO project Military Mobility notified the Council and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, in accordance with Article 2(3) of Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639, that the project members of that PESCO project had unanimously agreed on the day prior (a) that they wish to invite the UK to participate in that project, (b) on the scope, the form and the relevant stages of the participation of the UK in that project and (c) that the UK complies with the general conditions set out in Article 3 of Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639 (document 13591/22).
6. On 19 October 2022, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) agreed on an opinion on the notification regarding the request by the UK to participate in the PESCO project Military Mobility (document 13848/22) in which it recommended that the Council take a positive decision as to whether the participation of the UK in the PESCO project Military Mobility meets the conditions set out in Article 3 of Decision (CFSP) 2020/1639.
7. On 31 October 2022, the High Representative submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the participation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the PESCO project Military Mobility (doc. 14071/22).
8. On 7 November 2022, the Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX) agreed the text of the draft Council Decision.

9. COREPER is therefore invited to:

- confirm the agreement on the draft Council Decision;
 - recommend that the Council adopt the draft Council Decision on the participation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the PESCO project Military Mobility as set out, after finalisation of the text by the legal/linguistic experts, in document 14072/22;
 - decide to publish the Council Decision in the Official Journal.
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