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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL laying down harmonised rules for the marketing of construction products and repealing Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 (**first reading**) - Adoption of the legislative act = Statements

Statement by Bulgaria

The Republic of Bulgaria considers the new Construction Products Regulation to be a key act in the area of the EU single market, in view of the important role that the construction sector plays in the EU economy as a whole.

The Republic of Bulgaria fully supports the objective of the new Regulation on account of:

- the need to address shortcomings identified in the practical application of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011, and
- the need to update the legal framework for construction products, taking into account new market realities, including by introducing circular economy principles.

In this sense, we recognise the challenge the co-legislators are facing in adopting an ambitious and completely new Construction Products Regulation, which is a complex piece of legislation due to its interconnection with a number of other pieces of EU single market legislation. At the same time, however, we strongly regret that the lengthy discussions in the Council, involving discussions on specific aspects per cluster, failed to allow for the final text of the Regulation to be considered in full and within a reasonable time frame.

We would stress that in the area of technical harmonisation, the guiding principle for Bulgaria has always been adherence to the principles of better regulation, and most importantly to the objective of achieving a clear regulatory framework and future-proof legislation, adequately responding to the current challenges and needs of the market, and avoiding unnecessary burdens, both for economic operators and competent national authorities.

In the light of the above, we believe that the ultimate objective of improving the current legislative framework in the construction products sector has not been achieved to the greatest extent possible, and consequently potential difficulties could arise in the practical implementation of the new Regulation. Although many of the problematic issues have been addressed in the final text of the Regulation, Bulgaria highlights its concerns about the feasibility and effectiveness of the requirements related to the obligations of economic operators (including the new categories of economic operators introduced), the updated market surveillance framework and the implementation of the new assessment and verification systems.

In view of the above, Bulgaria cannot agree and **is abstaining** in the vote on the final version of the Construction Products Regulation.

Statement by Italy

Italy welcomes the new Regulation for construction products.

This Regulation is essential to facilitate standardisation and to support the green and digital transition, with the aim of ensuring that only safe and compliant products circulate on the Union market.

However, the new Regulation requires significant efforts at both national and European level. The Commission should provide adequate resources in a timely manner to implement the provisions of the new Regulation and assist authorities and stakeholders in the Member States during the transition phase, focusing in particular on SMEs, which will incur additional costs in complying with the new standards.

Europe cannot afford to continue to rely on a set of harmonised standards that are more than 20 years old.

At the same time, Italy hopes that support for innovation will lead to a smoother process for ensuring the citation of new European Assessment Documents (EADs) in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, as these specifications are no longer harmonised.