Brussels, 25 November 2022
(OR. en)

Interinstitutional File:
2022/0032(COD)

14668/22
ADD 1

COMPET 885
IND 466
RC 57
RECH 595
TELECOM 454
FIN 1212
CADREFIN 197
CODEC 1730

NOTE

From: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
To: Council
No. prev. doc.: 14454/22
No. Cion doc.: 6170/22 + ADD 1
Subject: Regulation establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem (Chips Act)
- General approach
  = Council statement

Delegations will find attached above-mentioned statement which will be annexed to the Council minutes.
COUNCIL STATEMENT

The Council supports the political objectives of the Chips Act and wishes to maintain the financial level of ambition of the proposal. At the same time, the Council reiterates its commitment to the Joint Declaration by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the re-use of decommitted funds in relation to the research programme\(^1\) as regards the limit of EUR 0.5 billion in the period 2021-2027 for making available again these decommitted funds to the benefit of the research programme.

To maintain the overall foreseen budget of EUR 3.3 billion, the Commission is invited to support the Council in exploring alternative solutions that could be discussed in the course of the forthcoming trilogue negotiations with the European Parliament, while respecting the prerogatives of the Budget Authority. The Council underlines that the Horizon Europe contribution to the Chips Act budget should be maintained at EUR 1.65 billion.

The Council also recalls the Joint Statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the financing of the European Chips Act and the Secure Space Connectivity Programme approved on 23 November 2022\(^2\).

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\(^1\) OJ C 444 I, 22.12.2020, p. 3.
\(^2\) [OJ xxxxx]