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FIN 1145

'A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Joint text on the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2024
	Approval

- 1. Following meetings of the Conciliation Committee on 26 October, 10 and 11 November 2023, an agreement has been reached between the European Parliament and the Council on a joint text as provided for in Article 314(5) TFEU.
- 2. This joint text and its annexes have been forwarded to the European Parliament and the Council on 11 November 2023, which each have a period of fourteen days from this day to approve it (see the ANNEX), and consists of the following documents taken together, recorded in Addenda 1 to 5 to this document:
 - summary figures by financial framework headings (see document 15238/23 ADD 1);
 - line by line figures on all budget items (see documents 15238/23 ADD 2 and ADD 3);
 - a consolidated document showing the figures and final text of all lines amended during the Conciliation (see documents 15238/23 ADD 4 and ADD 5).

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- 3. The Conciliation Committee has also agreed on or taken note of the statements recorded in Annex 2 to the ANNEX.
- 4. The <u>Council</u> is invited to:
 - approve the joint text on the budget 2024 as set out in the ANNEX and in Addenda 1 to
 5 to this document; and
 - record in its minutes the statements agreed on or taken note of in the context of the joint text set out in Annex 2 to the ANNEX.

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EUROPEAN UNION

Conciliation Committee on the budget 2024

Brussels, 11 November 2023

President-in-Office of the Council of the European Union 175, rue de la Loi B - 1048 Brussels

Dear President.

Based on Article 314(4) and (5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and following information by the Council that it could not accept all the amendments adopted by the European Parliament on 18 October 2023 on the Council's position on the draft budget for 2024¹, the Conciliation Committee was convened for 24 October 2023, with a view to reaching agreement on a joint text.

The Conciliation Committee had at its disposal the following elements:

- draft budget proposed by the Commission (COM(2023) 300 final of 5 July 2023), as amended by letter of amendment No 1 (COM(2023) 531 final of 9 October 2023);
- Council's position on the draft budget (5 September 2023);
- European Parliament's amendments to the Council's position (18 October 2023).

Following meetings on 26 October, 10 and 11 November 2023 an agreement has been reached on 11 November 2023 on a joint text as provided for in Article 314(5) TFEU.

See letter by the President of the Council of 18 October 2023.

In accordance with Point 24 of Annex 1 to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020¹, the joint text for the budget 2024 shall consist of this letter and the following documents taken together, which are recorded in Annex 1:

- line by line figures for all budget items and summary figures by MFF headings;
- a consolidated document, indicating the figures and final text of all lines that have been amended during the conciliation procedure;
- the list of the lines not amended with regard to the draft budget or the Council's position on it.

Pursuant to Article 314(6) TFEU, the joint text is hereby forwarded to the European Parliament and the Council, which shall each have a period of fourteen days from this day, in which to approve the text for the purposes of paragraphs 7 and 8 of the same Article.

The Conciliation Committee has also agreed on or taken note of the statements recorded in Annex 2 to this letter.

An identical letter is addressed to the President of the European Parliament.

Johan VAN OVERTVELDT Co-chair Esperanza SAMBLAS Co-chair

Annexes: List of documents forming part of the joint text

Statements

cc: Johannes HAHN, Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources

Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources (OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 28).

2024 BUDGETARY PROCEDURE CONCILIATION DOCUMENT LIST OF DOCUMENTS FORMING PART OF THE JOINT TEXT - BUDGET 2024¹ -

Doc No 1: SUMMARY TABLES

FIGURES BY MFF HEADING

FIGURES BY PROGRAMME

AUTHORISED ESTABLISHMENT PLANS BY SECTION

Doc No 2: FIGURES BY BUDGET LINE

Doc No 2.1: OTHER SECTIONS

Doc No 2.2: SECTION III - COMMISSION

Doc No 3: AMENDMENTS BY BUDGET LINE

Doc No 3.1: OTHER SECTIONS

Doc No 3.2: SECTION III - COMMISSION

The documents listed in this Annex will only be sent electronically.

2024 BUDGETARY PROCEDURE CONCILIATION DOCUMENT STATEMENTS

1. <u>Joint statement by the European Parliament and the Council on payment appropriations</u>

The European Parliament and the Council call on the Commission to continue closely and actively monitoring during the year 2024 the implementation of the programmes of the current and previous MFFs (particularly in sub-heading 2a and Rural Development). To that end, the European Parliament and the Council invite the Commission to present, in a timely manner, updated figures concerning the state of affairs and estimates regarding 2024 payment appropriations (taking into account the improved forecasts accuracy of the Member States where applicable). If the figures show that the appropriations entered in the 2024 budget are insufficient to cover the needs, the European Parliament and the Council invite the Commission to present as soon as possible an appropriate solution, inter alia a draft amending budget, with a view to allowing the European Parliament and the Council to take any necessary decisions as soon as possible without undue delay for justified needs. Where applicable, the European Parliament and the Council will take into account the urgency of the matter, shortening the eight-week period for a decision if deemed necessary. The same applies mutatis mutandis if the figures show that the appropriations entered in the 2024 budget are higher than needed.

2. <u>Joint statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on integrating the outcome of the MFF mid-term revision in the 2024 budget</u>

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission take note of the ongoing discussions on the proposed revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027. The Council has been invited by the European Council to take work forward, with a view to reaching an overall agreement on the proposed revised MFF by the end of the year, thereby enabling swift adoption having due regard to the role of the European Parliament in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Treaties. Therefore, the impact of such agreement for the financial year 2024 can only be introduced via a draft amending budget.

The European Parliament and the Council therefore invite the Commission to propose a draft amending budget immediately as soon as the revision of the MFF Regulation is agreed with a view to aligning the 2024 budget to a revised MFF Regulation.

The European Parliament and the Council commit to consider the proposal of the Commission without undue delay, taking into account the urgency of the matter.

3. <u>Unilateral statement of the Commission on the MFA+ interest rate subsidy for the</u> financial year 2024

<u>The Commission</u> undertakes to propose the appropriate budgetary measures for freeing the resources allocated for the MFA+ interest rate subsidy (budget Article 14 07 01) for the financial year 2024, should an alternative financing solution be found in due time.

4. Unilateral statement of the European Parliament on the MFA+ interest rate subsidy

<u>The European Parliament</u> takes note of the Commission statement. The European Parliament recalls that, under Regulation 2022/2463, the interest rate subsidy in relation to MFA+ for Ukraine should be financed from voluntary contribution from the Member States and that the EU budget may contribute subject to available resources. In that context, the European Parliament stresses that the provisional entry of appropriation on budget line 14 07 01 is a one-off exception and does not constitute a precedent for future budgetary procedures.