Council of the European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject:	Council Implementing Decision on the application of an increased visa fee with respect to The Gambia – Adoption

1. On 9 November 2022, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council Implementing Decision on the application of an increased visa fee with respect to The Gambia[1].

2. At the meeting of the Visa Working Party held on 9-10 November 2022, the Commission presented the proposal and the first exchange of views was held on the proposal. At a meeting held on 16 November 2022, the Integration, Migration and Expulsion Working Party (IMEX Expulsion) delegations were informed about the proposal. On 22 November 2022 at a Visa and Integration, Migration and Expulsion Counsellors meeting, delegations exchanged views on the proposal.

3. Further to this exchange, on 25 November 2022 a written procedure has been launched on the proposal, which demonstrated that there was a large support for the proposal.

[1] 14564/22.

4. In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application. Given that this Decision builds upon the Schengen *acquis*, Denmark shall, in accordance with Article 4 of that Protocol, decide within a period of six months after the Council has decided on this Decision whether it will implement it in its national law.

5. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC; Ireland is therefore not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.

6. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest that the Council adopt, with DE abstaining, the abovementioned Implementing Decision as finalised by the legal/linguistic experts and set out in document 15216/22 as an "A" item on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting.

   The Implementing Decision will be published in the Official Journal in accordance with the applicable rules.