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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 as regards introducing new environmental economic accounts modules - Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 11 July 2022, the Commission adopted its proposal amending Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 as regards introducing new environmental economic accounts modules (2022/0210 (COD)).

2. The proposal is based on Article 338 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and is subject to the ordinary legislative procedure.

3. The main objective of the proposal is to extend the scope of the European environmental economic accounts to provide better information for the European Green Deal.

4. Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2011 on European environmental economic accounts[1] sets out a common framework for collecting, compiling, transmitting and evaluating European environmental economic accounts. It was amended by Regulation (EU) No 538/2014[2]. The Regulation covers six modules: air emissions accounts, environmentally related taxes by economic activity, economy-wide material flow accounts, environmental protection expenditure accounts, environmental goods and services sector accounts, and physical energy flow accounts. Article 10 of the Regulation lists potential new modules to be introduced later based on Commission proposals. This proposal introduces three new environmental account modules already provided for under Article 10: forest accounts, ecosystem accounts, and environmental subsidies and similar transfers accounts.

II. STATE OF PLAY

5. The Working Party on Statistics examined the proposal amending Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 at four meetings (9 September, 7 October, 11 November, 25 November and 9 December).

6. On 14 December 2022, the Working Party confirmed its support by written procedure to the compromise proposal on the amendment of Regulation 691/2011 as set out in document ST 15925/22.

III. CONCLUSION

7. In view of the above, it is suggested that the Committee of Permanent Representatives:
   - agree the negotiating mandate with regard to the proposed revision of Regulation 691/2011, as set out in document 15925/22;
   - invite the Presidency to start negotiations with the European Parliament, on the basis of this mandate, with a view to reaching an agreement at first reading.

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1 OJ L 192, 22.7.2011, p. 1.

2 Regulation (EU) No 538/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 on European environmental economic accounts (OJ L 158, 27.5.2014, p. 113).

8. Unless objected by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, document 15925/22 (the negotiating mandate) will be made public by the General Secretariat of the Council after approval.

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