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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
No. prev. doc.:	ST 11707/21
Subject:	Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of a Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of a Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus – Adoption of the Irish language version

1. On 23 October 2020, the Council authorised the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of a Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus.¹

¹ See OJ L 385, 17.11.2020, p. 1.

2. During the two years signature period, seven Parties to the Interbus Agreement, including the United Kingdom, have signed the Protocol. In accordance with its Article 17(1)(b), the protocol will enter into force on the first day of the month following that in which three Contracting Parties, including the European Union, have deposited their instruments of approval or ratification with the Depositary.
3. On 28 September 2021, the Council decided on the conclusion of the Protocol.² So far, no other Party has ratified the Protocol.
4. The Irish language version of the Protocol, which was not produced prior to the two decisions mentioned before, is now available.
5. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend that the Council in one of its upcoming meetings:
 - adopts, as an "A" item, the above-mentioned Council Decisions in the Irish language together with the Irish version of the Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus, as set out in documents 11438/20, 11441/20 and 11442/20.
6. The text of the Protocol will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union together with the Council decision on its conclusion.

² See ST 11707/21, ST 11441/20, ST 11442/20.