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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	Smart Borders Package - wrap up of discussions with a view to assisting the Commission in the preparation of the new proposals

The Permanent Representatives Committee endorsed the approach, as set out in 5828/14, for the way forward on the Smart Borders Package. That approach involved a proof of concept work frame, which was implemented by carrying out of a study and a pilot project. The purpose of the proof of concept was to help the Commission drafting its new proposals on the Smart Borders and, ultimately, to ensure that the two co-legislators would be given an array containing the best possible options and solutions from a technical and a cost-benefit point of view, as an input for the future negotiations on this Package.

The Permanent Representatives Committee agreed on 10 December 2014 on political guidelines in relation to the pilot project that had been planned by the Commission following the presentation of the study, as well as on work, as set out in 16542/14, that should be taken forward in parallel to it.

This work was concluded in the course of 2015 and the former LU Presidency submitted on 11 December 2015 to the Working Party on Frontiers a Note, as set out in doc. 15024/15. This Note provided an account on the final report on the pilot project conducted by eu-LISA, as well as the progress achieved in clarifying certain outstanding issues, which were mostly outside the scope of the pilot project, in order to help the Commission in the preparation of the new Smart Borders proposals.

Based on proceedings in the Working Party on Frontiers on 8 January 2016, Coreper is invited to take note of the findings contained document 15024/15, in view of the ongoing work for the new legislation on Smart Borders.