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6182/2/25  
REV 2

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## NOTE

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)  
Subject: Second EU-India Trade and Technology Council (New Delhi, 28 February 2025): joint statement  
- Preparation for the approval of a non-binding instrument  
- Decision to use the written procedure

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1. On 6 February 2023, the Council approved the joint statement on the establishment of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC) and the accompanying Terms of Reference<sup>1</sup>. The EU-India TTC was set up on the same day. The first meeting of the TTC at ministerial level took place on 16 May 2023 in Brussels.
2. As decided on 19 April 2023<sup>2</sup>, the Permanent Representatives Committee ensures the overall coordination and consistency of the work on the EU-India TTC within the Council.
3. On 23 January 2025, the European Commission informed the Permanent Representatives Committee of the intention to enter negotiations on a non-binding instrument in the form of a joint statement with India in the framework of the EU-India TTC<sup>3</sup>. The second meeting of the EU-India TTC will take place on 28 February 2025 in New Delhi.

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<sup>1</sup> ST 5510/23

<sup>2</sup> ST 8132/23

<sup>3</sup> ST 5643/25

4. On 4 February 2025, the Permanent Representatives Committee confirmed its agreement<sup>1</sup> for the European Commission to negotiate a non-binding instrument. The Council approved it as an ‘A’ item on 18 February 2025.
5. The objective of this joint statement is to reaffirm the political commitment of the EU and India towards the EU-India TTC, to underline the importance of a strong EU-India partnership in addressing strategic challenges related to trade, trusted technology and security, and to provide guidance to the three Working Groups established under the EU-India TTC.
6. The European Commission circulated, for discussion, relevant partial drafts of the Joint Statement to the Trade Policy Committee (Deputies) on 30 January, the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society on 11 February, and the Working Party on Research on 13 February.
7. On 12 February 2025, the European Commission circulated a consolidated text of the draft joint statement, as contained in document ST 6201/25. The Permanent Representatives Committee examined the draft text on 14 February 2025 and invited the Commission to continue negotiations with the Indian side to further improve the text.
8. As a result, on 20 February 2025, the European Commission circulated a revised draft joint statement, as contained in document ST 6201/1/25 REV 1, which did not reflect substantial trade-related amendments introduced later by India. The Permanent Representatives Committee examined it on 21 February 2025 and invited the Commission to continue negotiations with the Indian side to further improve the text.
9. As a result, on 25 February 2025, the European Commission circulated a new revised consolidated text of the draft joint statement, as contained in document ST 6201/2/25 REV 2.
10. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to discuss further preparations for the second meeting of the EU-India TTC and the draft joint statement, and, in the light of that discussion, consider to:
  - confirm its agreement on the text of the draft joint statement, as contained in document ST 6201/2/25 REV 2;

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<sup>1</sup> ST 5790/25

- agree to the use of a written procedure pursuant to Article 12 of the Council's Rules of Procedure for the approval of this text by the Council.
- recommend that the Council agree that, if adjustments of the text are required to ensure the agreement of both sides, the text may be adapted accordingly provided that the changes do not affect the substance and the intent of the text.

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