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European Union

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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	EU-Korea audiovisual co-production entitlement - Approval of a letter

Delegations will find attached a draft letter from the Presidency relating to the EU-Korea audiovisual co-production entitlement and its possible extension or termination.

COREPER is invited to approve the wording of the annexed letter and authorise the Presidency to submit it to the European Commission on its behalf.

Brussels, 26 February 2020

Mr Thierry BRETON

Commissioner, Internal Market

Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200

1049 Brussels

Subject: *EU-Korea audiovisual co-production entitlement*

Dear Mr Breton,

I would like to draw your attention to the situation regarding the possible renewal of the EU-Korea audiovisual co-production entitlement.

Council Decision (EU) 2017/1107 of 8 June 2017¹ foresees that the period of entitlement for audiovisual co-productions as provided for in Article 5 of the Protocol on Cultural Cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Korea, of the other part, ends on 30 June 2020.

Through the above-mentioned decision, the Council approved for a second time the extension of the period of entitlement, the first extension having been agreed by the Council in 2014².

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2017/1107 of 8 June 2017 as regards the extension of the period of entitlement to audiovisual co-productions as provided for in Article 5 of the Protocol on Cultural Cooperation to the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Korea, of the other part (OJ L 160, 22.6.2017, p. 33).

² OJ L 124, 25.4.2014, p. 25.

Under the Protocol, the entitlement will automatically be renewed for a duration of a further three years, unless a Party terminates the entitlement by giving notice in writing at least three months before the expiry of the period. In the present case, this deadline expires on 31 March 2020.

In accordance with Article 3(1) of Council Decision (EU) 2015/2169³, the Commission is to provide notice to Korea of the Union's intention not to extend the period of entitlement to co-production pursuant to Article 5 of the Protocol unless, on a proposal from the Commission, the Council agrees four months before the end of such period of entitlement to continue the entitlement. In the present case, the deadline for the adoption of such a Council decision expires on the 29 February 2020.

Accordingly, on behalf of and with the approval of Coreper, I hereby request the Commission to present a proposal for a Council Decision on the extension of the entitlement for a new period of three years or, in the absence of such a proposal, give notice to the Republic of Korea on the termination of the entitlement.

Yours sincerely,

Goran ŠTEFANIĆ
Chair of the Permanent Representatives Committee
(Part I)

copy to: Ilze JUHANSONE, Secretary-General
Roberto VIOLA, Director-General, DG CNECT

³Council Decision (EU) 2015/2169 of 1 October 2015 on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Korea, of the other part (OJ L 307, 25.11.2015, p. 2).