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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the Union Secure Connectivity Programme for the period 2023-2027 (first reading) - Adoption of the legislative act - Statements

Statement of the Hellenic Republic

Greece was from the very beginning a strong supporter of the Commission's secure connectivity initiative and welcomes the swift completion of the Regulation establishing the Union Secure Connectivity Programme for the period 2023-2027 and hopefully beyond.

Connectivity is a core political priority for Greece and this has been reflected in its RRF programme. Blending space and terrestrial infrastructure can provide connectivity in a secure and resilient manner, which is necessary for our governments, economy and society. Greece has its own GOVSATOM system ("GreeCom"), participates actively in EU programmes such as Galileo,

Copernicus and EuroQCI, is one of the members of the SST Consortium and has launched a national microsatellite project aiming to strengthen and maximise the engagement of all space actors, utilise and expand its infrastructure and respond to the needs for secure connectivity.

In this spirit, Greece underlines the need to ensure a balanced distribution of the Union Secure Connectivity Programme's capacities among the Member States and stresses the absolute necessity to guarantee the interoperability and the complementarity of the Union Programme with the national relevant activities, capacities and infrastructure during the preparation, the development, the implementation and the running of the Programme.

Statement of the Republic of Croatia

The Republic of Croatia expresses its full support for the adoption of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Union Secure Connectivity Programme for the period 2023-2027.

However, the Republic of Croatia reiterates its discontent with the current Croatian linguistic version of the proposal for the Regulation, i.e. with the Croatian equivalent of the English term “cyber” and its derivatives into the Croatian language¹, an issue which we have continuously raised on several levels within the Council during the last few years.

The current Croatian version of the proposal for the Regulation uses terminology that is non-existent in Croatian cyber legislation and professional use, thus creating confusion and undermining legal certainty, coherence and clarity.

The Republic of Croatia reiterates its position that the terminology used by the EU institutions should be aligned with already existing national legal terminology in order to ensure legal certainty.

The Republic of Croatia remains committed to promoting secure communications with a new constellation of satellites and continues to support the adoption of the Regulation.

¹ The equivalent used in the Croatian legislation is “kibernetički” whereas the term used in the Regulation is “kiber-“.