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European Union

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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	Draft Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council empowering Italy to negotiate and conclude an agreement with Switzerland authorising cabotage operations in the course of the provision of international road passenger transport services by coach and bus in the border regions between the two countries (first reading) - Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the legislative act

1. On 13 May 2019 the Commission sent its proposal¹, based on Article 2(1) and Article 91 TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 25 September 2019².
3. The Committee of the Regions was consulted and decided not to issue an opinion.
4. On 13 April 2020 the European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on the Commission proposal. The outcome of voting in the European Parliament reflects the compromise agreement reached between the institutions and should, therefore, be acceptable to the Council³.

¹ 9362/19.

² OJ C 14, 15.1.2020, p. 118.

³ 6626/20.

5. In absence of Council meetings and in view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision (EU) 2020/556⁴, that the Council uses the written procedure for the adoption of the draft Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council empowering Italy to negotiate and conclude an agreement with Switzerland authorising cabotage operations in the course of the provision of international road passenger transport services by coach and bus in the border regions between the two countries, as set out in document PE- CONS 2/20⁵.
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⁴ Council Decision (EU) 2020/556 of 21 April 2020 extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 128I, 23.4.2020, p. 1).

⁵ PE-CONS 2/20 will be available in due time.