

**Brussels, 21 March 2022
(OR. en)**

6706/22

UEM 31

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (part 2) / Council
Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION amending decision 1999/70/EC concerning the external auditors of the national central banks, as regards the external auditors of the Bank of Greece

1. Pursuant to Article 27.1 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and the European Central Bank (ECB), the accounts of the ECB and national central banks of the Member States whose currency is the euro are to be audited by independent external auditors recommended by the Governing Council of the ECB and approved by the Council of the European Union.
2. On 17 February 2022, the ECB Governing Council recommended that Ernst & Young (Hellas) Certified Auditors Accountants S.A. should be appointed as the external auditors of the Bank of Greece for the financial years 2022 to 2026, with the option to extend the mandate to the financial years 2027 and 2028.
3. The Permanent Representatives Committee could therefore invite the Council to adopt, as an 'A' item at one of its forthcoming meetings, the relevant Decision as finalised by the lawyer-linguists in document ST 6707/22.