



Brussels, 23 April 2020  
(OR. en)

6876/1/20  
REV 1

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Interinstitutional File:  
2020/0031(NLE)

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TRANS 122

## 'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
No. Cion doc.:	6347/20 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the 56th session of the Committee of Experts for the Carriage of Dangerous Goods of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail as regards certain amendments to Appendix C to the Convention concerning International Carriage by rail – Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission submitted to the Council on 26 February 2020 the above-mentioned proposal for a Council Decision regarding the position of the European Union at the 56<sup>th</sup> session of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) Committee of Experts for the Carriage of Dangerous Goods.
2. Originally the experts planned to meet in Berne, Switzerland, on 27 May 2020. However, OTIF will replace the meeting by a written vote in order to allow the amendments to enter into force on 1 January 2021, to maintain legal coherence for the transport of dangerous goods in rail transport.
3. The Union has acceded to the *Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail* (COTIF) in 2011 by virtue of Council Decision 2013/103/EU of 16 June 2011.

## II. WORK AT THE PREPARATORY BODY

4. In its meeting on 27 February 2020, the Working Party on Land Transport examined and endorsed the proposal presented by the Commission.

## III. CONCLUSIONS

5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited:
  - to confirm its agreement on the text of the draft Decision as set out in document 6438/20, revised by the lawyer-linguists, and the related table of amendments in document 7049/20, and
  - 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 2020/430, that the Council uses the written procedure for its adoption.
6. Once adopted, the European Parliament will be informed about the Council Decision.