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'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)

No. Cion doc.: 5765/25 + ADD 1

Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the modification of customs duties applicable to imports of certain goods originating in or exported directly or indirectly from the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus
- Confirmation of the final compromise text with a view to agreement

1. On 28 January 2025, the European Commission submitted the above-mentioned proposal (ST 5765/25 + ADD 1) to the Council.
2. The aim of the proposal is to increase the customs duties applicable to imports of certain agricultural goods as well as of certain fertilisers originating in or exported directly or indirectly from the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus. The proposal also intends to avoid the gradual development of dependency on the imports of such goods from Russia and Belarus (particularly on nitrogen-based fertilisers) that could make the EU vulnerable to potential coercive action and, as such, could impair the EU's food security.

3. The proposal is in line with the European Council Conclusions of October 2024 to “further limit Russia’s ability to wage war, including by further sanctions and, as called for and in line with the European Council conclusions of April 2024, import tariffs on Russian and Belarusian agricultural products”.
4. On 14 March, the Permanent Representatives Committee agreed to the proposal without any modifications, as set out in document ST 5765/25 + ADD 1.
6. The European Parliament’s Committee on International Trade (INTA) does not intend to propose any amendments and intends to hold a vote on the proposal, as is, at its meeting on 14 May 2025. The European Parliament aims to adopt its position at first reading in its plenary sessions on 21-22 May 2025.
7. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited:
 - to confirm their agreement to the proposal without modifications, as set out in document ST 5765/25 + ADD 1;
 - to authorise the Presidency to send a letter to the Chair of the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade (INTA) confirming that, should the European Parliament adopt its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294 paragraph 3 of the Treaty, without amendments to the Commission proposal (as set out in document ST 5765/25 + ADD 1), the Council would, in accordance with Article 294 paragraph 4 of the Treaty, approve the European Parliament's position and the act shall be adopted in that wording subject, if necessary, to revision by the legal linguists of both institutions.