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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Directive 92/43/EEC as regards the protection status of the wolf (Canis lupus) - Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament

1. On 7 March 2025, the Commission submitted its proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 92/43/EEC as regards the protection status of the wolf (Canis lupus)[1].

2. The aim of the proposal is a targeted amendment to the Annexes of the Habitats Directive[2] to change the level of protection of the wolf by moving the species from Annex IV of the Directive (Strict Protection) to Annex V (Management Measures), in order to implement the decision of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention, adopted on 6 December 2024.

3. Within the Council, the Working Party on the Environment examined the proposal at its meeting on 24 March 2025. Delegations demonstrated broad support for the Commission's proposal and the swift adoption thereof. Consequently, the Presidency proposes to accept the Commission's proposal without amendments.

1 Doc. 7018/25.
2 Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7–50).

4. In the European Parliament, the ENVI Committee decided on 18 March 2025 to use the urgency procedure set out in Rule 170(6) of the Parliaments' Rules of Procedure (plenary vote without written Committee report). The European Parliament aims to adopt its position at first reading during its first plenary session in May 2025.

5. Should the European Parliament adopt its position at first reading on the text of the proposal with no amendments as set out in document 7018/25, subject to revision of that text by the lawyer-linguists of both institutions, the Council will approve the European Parliament's position and the act will be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the European Parliament's position.

6. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to agree on the text of the proposal of the Commission as set out in document 7018/25, subject to revision by the lawyer-linguists of both institutions.