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**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009 <b>(first reading)</b> - Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons

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1. On 14 June 2018 the Commission sent its proposal<sup>1</sup>, based on Articles 209, 212 and 322(1) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 12 December 2018<sup>2</sup>.
3. The Committee of the Regions delivered its opinion on 6 December 2018<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> 10148/18 + ADD 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 110, 22.3.2019, p. 163–170

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 86, 7.3.2019, p. 295–309.

4. The European Court of Auditors delivered its opinion on 13 December 2018<sup>4</sup>.
5. The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on 27 March 2019<sup>5</sup>.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee confirmed on 17 March 2021 the provisional agreement reached by the co-legislators.
7. Subsequently, on 18 March 2021 the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) and Committee on Development (DEVE) confirmed the provisional agreement and their chairs sent a letter on 19 March 2021 to the chair of Coreper declaring that the European Parliament should, at its second reading, approve the Council's position at first reading (following a legal-linguistic review) without amendments.
8. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore asked to suggest that the Council:
  - adopt its position at first reading as set out in document 6879/21, and the statement of reasons as set out in document 6879/21 ADD 1, as an 'A' item at a forthcoming meeting, with Hungary abstaining;
  - approve the Council statement, as set out in Addendum 1 to this note;
  - decide that the Council statement, as set out in Addendum 1 to this note, and the Commission declarations, as set out in Addendum 2 to this note, be entered in the minutes of that meeting and published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*;
  - decide that the statement in Addendum 3 to this note be entered in the minutes of that meeting.

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<sup>4</sup> OJ C 45, 4.2.2019, p. 1–18.

<sup>5</sup> 7801/19.

9. At the same time, 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) 2021/454<sup>6</sup>, that the Council use the written procedure for the adoption of the abovementioned Regulation if, due to the circumstances related to COVID-19, no Council meeting takes place before 29 May 2021.
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<sup>6</sup> Council Decision (EU) 2021/454 of 12 March 2021 further 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 89, 16.3.2021, p. 15–16).