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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	7105/16 STATIS 11, COMPET 125, UD 59, CODEC 303
No. Cion doc.:	13517/13 STATIS 88, COMPET 648, UD 231, CODEC 1991 8066/13 PI 52, CODEC 711
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 on Community statistics relating to external trade with non-member countries as regards conferring of delegated and implementing powers upon the Commission for the adoption of certain measures - Political agreement

1. On 8 August 2013, the Commission submitted to the Council and the European Parliament a proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 on Community statistics relating to external trade with non-member countries as regards conferring of delegated and implementing powers upon the Commission for the adoption of certain measures.

2. The 1st reading position of the European Parliament was adopted in the Plenary on 12 March 2014.

3. On 11 June 2014, the outcome of the discussions of the Working Group was submitted to COREPER who granted the mandate to the Presidency to start the negotiations with the European Parliament.

4. Two informal trilogue meetings took place on 17 November and 8 December 2014 with representatives of the three institutions. During the second meeting, a final compromise text, set out in doc. 16787/14, was agreed.

5. On 19 December 2014, The Committee discussed but did not endorse the final compromise set out in doc. 16787/14, mandating the Presidency to continue negotiations with Parliament notably on the open issue of the consultation of experts of the Member States by the Commission to be included in Article 1 (6) Article 10a para. 2. It was then decided to put the negotiations on this file on hold, pending on the outcome of the Inter-Institutional agreement on better law-making.

6. The Inter-Institutional agreement on better law-making, agreed on 15 December 2015 between the three institutions, has been adopted at EP plenary on 09/03/2016, and by the Council on 15/03/2016. The final compromise as set out in doc. 7105/16 has been redrafted accordingly.

7. On 21 April 2016, the Chair of the Committee on International Trade Committee (INTA) of the European Parliament addressed a letter to the President of the Permanent Representatives Committee, stating that, if the Council adopts its position at first reading in accordance with the above-mentioned compromise, he would recommend to the Plenary that the Council's position be accepted without amendment, subject to legal-linguistic verification, at Parliament's second reading.

8. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives' Committee is invited to recommend to the Council to confirm, under the A items, the political agreement as set out in doc. 7105/16.