

Brussels, 25 April 2023 (OR. en)

8539/23

**LIMITE** 

**TRANS 152 RELEX 484** 

## **NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	High-level agreements between the EU and Western Balkan partners (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) for the adaptation of indicative maps within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Regulation No 1315/2013 (the TEN-T Regulation)
	- Preparation for the authorisation to sign a non-binding instrument

In view of the meeting of the Working Party on Transport - Intermodal Questions and Networks on 28 April 2023, delegations will find in the annex a note from the Commission services on the above subject with a view to authorising the signature of the high-level agreements with the above Western Balkan partners on behalf of the EU. The draft high-level agreements with each partner, including the maps, are contained in the addenda to this note (ADD 1 to ADD 6).

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## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport

Directorate B - Investment, Innovative & Sustainable Transport Unit B1 – Transport Networks

Brussels, 25 April 2023

## NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL (INTERMODAL TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP)

**SUBJECT:** 

Draft high-level agreements within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 (TEN-T Regulation) concerning adaptations of the indicative map of the transport infrastructure network for road, railway and inland waterways of the Western Balkans, to be signed on behalf of the European Union with the Western Balkans

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## REMARKS:

On 13 January 2022, the Commission informed the Council of the intention to negotiate with the six Western Balkan partners in order to enter into high-level agreements within the meaning of Article 49(6) of the TEN-T Regulation No 1315/20131 on behalf of the Union, as concerns adaptations of the indicative map of the transport infrastructure network for road, railway and inland waterways.

The negotiations have now been concluded successfully. The Council will find enclosed for each of the six Western Balkan partners a high-level agreement, with the text and map alignments as negotiated. In conformity with the purposes and structure of Article 49(6) of the TEN-T Regulation, the form and the title of the text is that of a non-binding agreement setting out political commitments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 1

The Commission hereby requests the Council to endorse the enclosed the six drafts ("High-Level Understanding") in order to allow for the signature by the Commission on behalf of the Union, as well as by the Western Balkan partners, at the Ministerial meeting of the Transport Community Treaty planned to take place on 16 May 2023.

After signature on behalf of the Union, the Commission would be entitled, under Article 49(6) of the TEN-T Regulation, to adopt a delegated Regulation on the adaptation of Annex III of the Regulation, with a view to adapting the indicative map of the Western Balkans.