

Brussels, 4 May 2023
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FIN 463
CES 23

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	Budget Committee
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Council Decision on a derogation from Decision 2013/471/EU on the granting of daily allowances to and the reimbursement of travelling expenses of members of the European Economic and Social Committee and their alternates, and repealing Decision (EU) 2021/1072 – <i>Adoption</i>

1. On 21 December 2022, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) submitted its evaluation report on the application of Council Decision 2021/1072¹ (covering reimbursements made from June to November 2022). In addition, this report contained a request for the Council to consider establishing a Decision on a structural allowance for remote attendance at EESC meetings.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2021/1072 of 28 June 2021 on a temporary derogation from Decision 2013/471/EU on the granting of daily allowances to and the reimbursement of travelling expenses of members of the European Economic and Social Committee and their alternates in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 230, 30.6.2021, p. 30).

2. Following the discussions on the EESC request at its meeting on 1 March 2023, the Budget Committee agreed on a two-step approach: firstly, to convert the temporary daily allowance for remote attendance included in Council Decision 2021/1072 into a permanent one; secondly, to pursue a broader discussion on the full set of EESC allowances, including a potential future comprehensive revision of Decision 2013/471/EU², to be undertaken before the end of the current term of office of the Committee.
3. At its meeting on 31 March 2023, the Budget Committee, on the basis of a Presidency proposal, discussed and agreed the text of this Council Decision.
4. It is, therefore, suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee advise the Council to:
 - adopt the Council Decision on a derogation from Decision 2013/471/EU on the granting of daily allowances to and the reimbursement of travelling expenses of members of the European Economic and Social Committee and their alternates, and repealing Decision (EU) 2021/1072, as set out after legal-linguistic finalisation in document 8018/23;
 - have this Decision published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

² Council Decision 2013/471/EU of 23 September 2013 on the granting of daily allowances to and the reimbursement of travelling expenses of members of the European Economic and Social Committee and their alternates (OJ L 253, 25.9.2013, p. 22).