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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 amending Regulation (EU) 2019/631 to include an additional flexibility as regards the calculation of manufacturers' compliance with CO <sub>2</sub> emission performance standards for new passenger cars and new light commercial vehicles for the calendar years 2025 to 2027 <b>(first reading)</b> - Adoption of the legislative act - Decision to derogate from the eight-week period provided for in Article 4 of Protocol 1 on the role of national Parliaments in the EU = Statements

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#### Statement by Italy

Italy welcomes the proposal to amend Regulation (EU) 2019/631 on CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for cars and vans to introduce a new flexibility and facilitate the achievement of the 2025 emission reduction target, thereby mitigating in the short term the risk of penalties (excess emissions premiums) that would penalise innovation and exacerbate the current difficulties of the EU automotive sector.

To adequately address such difficulties in the long term, Italy considers it essential that the planned revision of Regulation (EC) No 2019/631 be brought forward to this year. We therefore welcome the Commission's intention to bring forward the revision to the second half of 2025 and to speed up the necessary preparatory work.

Italy considers that the revision should be fact-based, reflect market realities and lead to a truly enabling and stable regulatory framework that ensures an economically sustainable and socially fair transition for the automotive sector. To this end, we consider it essential that the revision follow the principle of technological neutrality and consider the contribution of all available solutions for clean vehicles, including the use of biofuels. We also expect a comprehensive methodology for assessing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions over the entire life cycle of vehicles, from production to decommissioning.

Finally, Italy considers that measures to reduce the risk of penalties should also be taken for the heavy-duty vehicles sector and that the revision of Regulation (EU) 2019/1242 should be brought forward.

### **Statement by Malta**

Malta can support the proposed degree of flexibility into the legislative framework but has concerns to raise. It is essential to recall that the overarching objective of this Regulation aligns with the EU's collective 2030 climate targets, particularly the Effort Sharing Regulation national targets.

Transport remains one of the EU's principal emitting sectors, and in Malta's case, transport emissions are the major contributors to ESR targets. As a country that imports all its vehicles, Malta is entirely reliant on the external market for vehicle supply and is particularly vulnerable to fluctuations in price dynamics between conventional and low-emission technologies. In this context, the Regulation's role in stimulating the market supply of low-emission vehicles is viewed as critical to Malta's national efforts to accelerate the electrification of its vehicle fleet and meet its decarbonisation commitments.

In light of the current challenges facing the European automotive sector, Malta recognises the importance of ensuring that the pathway to achieving climate targets remains both ambitious and cost-effective.