

Brussels, 16 May 2025
(OR. en)

8950/25

CMPT 7
INST 103

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Partial renewal of the European Court of Auditors (2026) - Information to Delegations

Delegations will find in Annex the draft note to be submitted to the Permanent Representatives Committee with a view to the approval of a reply to the letter from the Secretary-General of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) of 2 May 2025 on the end of term of office of one Member of the ECA.

Draft note to the Permanent Representatives Committee

1. By letter of 2 May 2025¹, the Secretary-General of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) informed the Council of the end of the term of office of the following Member of the ECA on 28 February 2026:

– **Mr Klaus-Heiner LEHNE (Germany).**
2. Article 286(1) and (2), first subparagraph, TFEU states that:

"1. The Members of the Court of Auditors shall be chosen from among persons who belong or have belonged in their respective States to external audit bodies or who are especially qualified for this office. Their independence must be beyond doubt.

2. The Members of the Court of Auditors shall be appointed for a term of six years. The Council, after consulting the European Parliament, shall adopt the list of Members drawn up in accordance with the proposals made by each Member State. The term of office of the Members of the Court of Auditors shall be renewable".
3. In order to ensure the continuity of ECA's work, the new Member of the ECA should be appointed by the end of February 2026.
4. The Member State concerned should therefore send its proposal to the General Secretariat of the Council by 30 September 2025. To that effect, the General Secretariat of the Council will send a letter to the Member State concerned.
5. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee approve the wording of the reply letter to the Secretary-General of the ECA, as set out in the Annex to this note, in accordance with Article 19(7)(k) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

¹ 8668/25.

Draft reply

From: Council of the European Union

To: Secretary-General of the European Court of Auditors

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 2 May 2025 concerning one post of Member of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) whose term of office will expire on 28 February 2026, I have the pleasure to inform you that the General Secretariat of the Council will invite the Member State concerned to put forward its proposal for Member of the ECA by 30 September 2025.

In order to ensure the continuity of the ECA's work, the Council Decision appointing the Member of the ECA should be adopted no later than the end of February 2026. To that end, the procedure for the appointment of the Member should start sufficiently early to allow for the timely consultation of the European Parliament.

(Complimentary close)

Xxxxx XXXXX

Chair of the
Permanent Representatives Committee
