Council of the European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 **(first reading)** - Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons = Statements

Joint Statement by the Council and the Commission

The Council and the Commission remain committed to trying to avoid an interruption of fishing activities under Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements by striving towards the timely renewal of Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements and their implementing Protocols.

Joint Statement by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission

The European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission recognise the need to urgently advance action on the protection and conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems and biodiversity. The three institutions agree that tackling biodiversity loss, protecting and restoring ecosystems and/or maintaining them in good condition will require significant public and private investment at national and European level and that a significant proportion of the EMFAF expenditures should be invested in biodiversity. The three institutions agree that the European Commission will work with Member States, in the context of the programming exercise for the EMFAF 2021-2027, to reach the overall ambition of biodiversity spending highlighted in recital 15.