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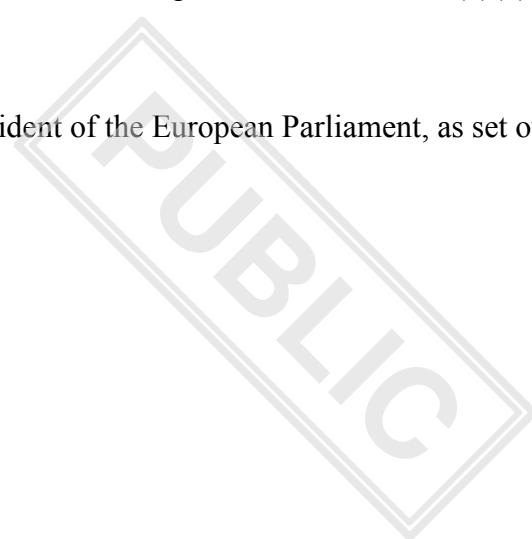
'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject: Draft letter to the President of the European Parliament regarding the composition of the European Parliament
- Approval of a letter

1. Pursuant to Art 14(2) TEU, it is for the European Council to adopt a unanimous decision establishing the EP composition ahead of each election, at the initiative of the European Parliament (EP) and after its consent.
2. The European Council decision must come sufficiently in advance of the elections to allow Member States to adopt necessary national measures for the elections. At the level of the Working Party on General Affairs, Member States have already stressed the urgency to know the EP composition.
3. To date there is no clear indication of when the European Parliament will submit its proposal. The Presidency thus wants to convey to the European Parliament the urgency of issuing a proposal, stressing the procedural steps at EU and national level needed to organise the European Elections.
4. The Working Party on General Affairs examined the draft letter on 25 May and gave its support to the Presidency's draft.

5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited, pursuant to Article 19(7)(k) of the Council's Rules of Procedure:

- to approve the wording of the letter to the President of the European Parliament, as set out in Annex to this Note,



DRAFT

From: Minister for EU Affairs Jessika Roswall, President of the Council of the European Union

To: President of the European Parliament

Brussels,....

Dear President,

I am writing to you regarding the draft decision on the Composition of the European Parliament, which I understand has been the subject of several discussions in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO) in recent months. The Council appreciates the complexities of the file and fully respects the European Parliament's internal decision-making process. We note, however, with concern the fact that there is currently no clear indication of when a vote would take place.

I would like to stress that any further delays could severely jeopardise the orderly preparation of the next European Parliament elections. Besides the interinstitutional process, Member States have to comply with national legal requirements to organise the elections. Some of them have already signalled fast-approaching internal legal or administrative deadlines.

With just over a year until the next European elections on 6-9 June 2024, I therefore wish to convey the urgency of issuing the proposal, so that the European Council may duly consider it and also, in accordance with its Treaty obligations, seek the consent of the European Parliament, before its final adoption.

Together with the incoming Spanish Presidency of the Council, we will do our utmost to ensure a speedy process in the Council and European Council upon receipt of the proposal from the European Parliament. Continued good cooperation between our institutions will be key to delivering on this important step for European democracy.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Copy: Salvatore DE MEO, MEP, Chair of the EP committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO)

Loránt VINCZE, MEP, AFCO Co-Rapporteur on the Composition of the EP

Sandro GOZI, MEP, AFCO Co-Rapporteur on the Composition of the EP