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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Presidency Flash for the Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth on 19 September 2025



PRESIDENCY FLASH NOTE

WP on Competitiveness and Growth (Internal Market)

Friday, 19 September 2025, 10:00

Dear colleagues,

After an initial focus on digital elements of the Single Market Strategy, our next meeting on **19 September** will deal with the Single Market and Customs Programme (SMCP) which will be negotiated in this Working Party.

The SMCP is designed to strengthen the Single Market by removing cross-border barriers, enhancing cooperation between national administrations, and improving enforcement of EU legislation. It will also contribute to the implementation of key custom policy initiatives, including the proposed EU Customs reform. Furthermore, the programme will support standardisation measures, consumer protection, market surveillance, anti-fraud, tax cooperation and European statistics.

In the **morning session**, the European Commission will give a first overall presentation of the proposed Regulation, including its objectives and expected outcomes. Member States will then have an opportunity to ask questions and provide initial feedback. We will

base the discussion on the bracketed version of the proposal which will be shared with delegations as soon as it is available.

The **afternoon session** will be dedicated to a detailed examination of the impact assessment underpinning the SMCP as a basis for better law-making. After a presentation from the Commission, Member States will be invited to provide their views. To guide the questions and discussion, we encourage delegations to use the Council's Impact Assessment indicative check list (WK 11283/25).

We will continue working on this proposal throughout the year. Given the cross-sectoral nature of the proposal, we intend to facilitate a process involving relevant attachés and experts. At this and upcoming meetings, colleagues from other working parties are welcome to attend while respecting the format 1+2. Furthermore, a new Delegates Portal community will be created in view of the examination of this programme. To that effect, delegations will be invited to add their relevant delegates to the community Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Internal Market – SMCP).

At the upcoming working party meetings on 3 and 17 October, we are planning an article-by-article examination of the proposal. Member States are invited to send written questions or comments in advance. Please send them by **25 September** to [redacted]; [redacted] and the General Secretariat (compet1.internalmarket@consilium.europa.eu). We will keep you updated on the further planning and aim to share a more detailed schedule ahead of the October meetings.

We look forward to seeing you on 19 September.

With kind regards,

DK Internal Market Presidency Team