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From: Presidency  
To: Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry)

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Subject: Presidency Flash - Industry Working Party meeting on 9 October 2023

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## Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry - CRMA) Industry Working Party 9<sup>th</sup> October

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to welcome you to a new Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry).

It will be a full day meeting with interpretation on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October starting at 10:00 in the Council Building.

First, we will examine the revised draft Council conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' special report No 15/2023: "The EU's industrial policy on batteries - New strategic impetus needed". Member States will be invited to share their views on the Council draft conclusions (please see document ST 13661/23).

Secondly, the Commission will update the Industry Working Party on the International Energy Agency Ministerial Conference held on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Besides, the Commission will give us some insights about the preparation of the Mineral Security Partnership Ministerial Conference of 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Thirdly, after the presentation from the Commission, we will examine its intention to enter into discussions to draw up a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the EU to establish a partnership on raw materials with Australia. Member States will be asked to indicate whether they can support authorising the Commission to negotiate, on behalf of the Union, this non-binding instrument.

Then, we will continue our work on the CRMA, on the basis of the Presidency non paper (document WK 12533/23). The Presidency will invite delegations to give guidance based on the way forward for the articles in batch I as proposed in the mentioned document. The Presidency intends to proceed in 3 rounds: the first round will include Articles 1 and 5(0), Article 2; the second round will be focused on Article 8; the third round will be on Chapter IV.

Discussions on remaining articles in batch II will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> October and this will be the last Working Group before COREPER I on **20<sup>th</sup> October** (kindly note the change of date), where we expect to revise our mandate for the next political trilogue, which will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> October. Trilogue debrief in COREPER is expected on 27<sup>th</sup> October.

The Spanish CRMA Presidency Team

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