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From:	Presidency
To:	Trade Policy Committee (Generalised System of Preferences)
Subject:	Review of the GSP Regulation - Presidency compromise proposal on access to Visa Code information

Presidency Proposal

(36a) When implementing this Regulation, the Commission should provide to the European Parliament and the Council timely information on important procedural steps, such as accession to GSP+, impacts on least developed countries graduating from EBA, the initiation of a temporary withdrawal procedure, a safeguards investigation or a change in the Combined Nomenclature codes laid down in this Regulation setting out which products may be subject to a special safeguard. The Commission should also keep the European Parliament and the Council informed of enhanced engagement activities, including the outcome of monitoring missions to GSP+ beneficiary countries, ***and of the initiation and results of a dedicated enhanced engagement with the beneficiary country concerned carried out in order to improve the level of cooperation of that beneficiary country in relation to the international obligation to readmit that beneficiary country's own nationals***. ***For the sake of ensuring the consistency between the policy objectives involved, the Commission should inform the European Parliament and the Council when it decides to temporarily withdraw the benefits from a beneficiary country in case of serious and systematic shortcomings related to the international obligation to readmit a beneficiary's country's own nationals. The Commission should, in particular provide the relevant information included in the reports and assessments carried out in the context of the application of Article 25a of the Visa Code in relation to the beneficiary country concerned. In order to substantiate the use of the readmission conditionality, the Commission should provide appropriate data on the readmission trends with regards to the beneficiary country concerned.*** Where necessary, the procedures for transmission of confidential information should be applied.

Article 18(4) [...]

When the Commission adopts a delegated act pursuant to Article 19, paragraph 10, to temporarily withdraw benefits from a beneficiary country in case of serious and systematic shortcomings related to the international obligation to readmit a beneficiary country's own nationals, it shall inform the European Parliament and the Council of the relevant information included in the reports and assessments carried out in the context of the application of Article 25a of the Visa Code in relation to that beneficiary country, including appropriate data on the readmission trends with the beneficiary country concerned.