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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: Education Summit
- *Information from the Commission*

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Commission on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under 'Any other business' for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 22-23 May 2017.

Education Summit

At the EYCS Council of 17 February 2017, in the framework of the adoption of the *Council Conclusions on inclusion in diversity through a high quality education for all*, Commissioner Navracsics announced his intention to follow up with an Education Summit which would include the theme Inclusion in Diversity.

The Commission wishes to provide further details on the date, theme and objectives of the event.

Commission's objective

With the Education Summit the Commission aims at:

- Raising the political profile of education as a vital force for economic growth and social cohesion; and
- Giving renewed focus and stronger impetus to the reform/modernisation of education policies.

Context and theme

The Summit will take place in **January 2018** in Brussels. It will have a specific and limited focus on priority issues and will be the occasion for a high-level commitment to action.

The Summit will be centred on inequality and low achievement in basic skills. This directly reflects President Juncker's repeated prioritisation of inequality to be addressed by the EU as a core challenge. The 2015 PISA results published in December 2016 have underlined the depth of the challenge that EU and Member States face in this area.

A high-level political consensus on tackling inequality in and through education is expected to emerge from the Summit.

A key input to the Summit will be the annual **Education and Training Monitor, to be presented in Autumn 2017**, which will provide the evidence-base to underpin the discussions.

The package of proposals on **school development and excellent teaching**, and on **modernising higher education**, to be adopted by the Commission in May 2017, as well as the review of the 2006 **Framework of Key Competences for Lifelong Learning** and the **Council Recommendation on promoting social inclusion and shared values through formal and non-formal learning**, to be adopted by the Commission later this year, will also help to frame the commitments and policy responses which will materialise during the Summit.

The Summit will bring together **400+ participants**, in particular: Education Ministers from the Member States, leading global speakers and representatives of key stakeholders such as teachers, learners and parents, researchers, business and social partners, and civil society.

