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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the accessibility of public sector bodies' websites
- Adoption of the political agreement with a view to an early second reading agreement with the European Parliament

1. The Commission adopted its above mentioned proposal on 3 December 2012 with Article 114 TFEU as the legal basis.
2. The European Parliament (Rapporteur Mr. Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, ALDE, IMCO) adopted its position at first reading on 26 February 2014. In the new Parliament, Ms. Dita Charanzova (ALDE) has been appointed Rapporteur.
3. In the Council, the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society examined the proposal at various meetings. On 18 December 2015, the Permanent Representatives Committee granted the mandate to the Luxembourg Presidency for initiating trilogue meetings with the European Parliament.

4. In total, three informal trilogues have been held during the Dutch Presidency, resulting in a tentative agreement on a compromise text reached in a final trilogue on 3 May 2016.
5. On 25 May 2016, the Permanent Representatives Committee endorsed the compromise text.
6. On 30 May 2016, the Chair of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) Committee of the European Parliament addressed a letter to the President of the Permanent Representatives Committee stating that, if the Council adopts its position at first reading in accordance with the above-mentioned compromise, he would recommend to the Plenary that the Council's position be accepted without amendment, subject to legal-linguistic verification, at Parliament's second reading.
7. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend to the Council to confirm, under the A items, the political agreement as set out in doc. 9464/16.
