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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Council

Subject: **Any other business**

A sustainable model of exploitation for Egnatia Motorway and the role of the European policy relating the interoperability of electronic toll systems contributing in this direction

- Information from the Greek delegation

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Greek delegation on the above-mentioned subject for consideration under "Any other business" at the meeting of the Council (Transport, Telecommunications and Energy) on 7 June 2016.

The current period in Greece there is a hot debate about the exploitation model of Egnatia Motorway at the Northern Part of Greece.

There is a notion that has been expressed by the Institutions that the proper model is the concession for 35 years, adjusting at the same time 11 new physical toll stations besides the existing 8 tolls stations without running a sustainability model depicting the impacts on users, economy, local communities and environment and mainly without describing the obligation for new investments for the concessionaire. It should be stressed that this Motorway is an important network of combined Transportation, a public core asset of the National Transport Plan, and a strategic path connecting the Eurasia with Adriatic Sea and Central Europe. The Greek Government legislated two weeks ago the installation of a distance based national electronic system in order to deploy a policy that is compatible with EU legislation (2004/52/EC and 2009/750/EC), ensure a more efficient and fair use of road network, contributes to the decarbonisation and embody new satellite technologies in favour of eliminating the need for physical toll infrastructures.

However, the Institutions asked from the Greek Government to exclude the Egnatia Motorway from the provisions of the above recent Law, creating serious concerns about the compatibility of such practices with the EU vision and best practices in the Transport sector.