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VISA 206
COASI 131

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

No. Cion doc.: 7762/16 + ADD1, 7763/16 + ADD1

Subject: a) Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the short-stay visa waiver
b) Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the short-stay visa waiver

1. On 8 April 2016, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the short-stay visa waiver (see 7762/16), together with a draft text of the said Agreement in the annex to the proposal (see 7762/16 ADD 1) and a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the same Agreement (see 7763/16 + ADD 1).
2. On 11 May 2016, the Visa Working Party agreed on these proposals.

3. These decisions constitute a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which the United Kingdom does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2000/365/EC of 29 May 2000¹; the United Kingdom is therefore not taking part in their adoption and is not bound by them or subject to their application.
4. These decisions constitute a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002²; Ireland is therefore not taking part in their adoption and is not bound by them or subject to their application.
5. The Decision on the signing, the text of the Agreement, and the Decision on the conclusion underwent the necessary lawyer-linguistic scrutiny. The edited text of the Decision on the signing is set out in 9771/16 VISA 181 COASI 106 (LA); the edited text of the Agreement is set out in 9774/16 VISA 182 COASI 108 (LA); the Decision on the conclusion is set out in 9775/16 VISA 183 COASI 109 (LA).
6. Since the Agreement is due to be provisionally applicable from the day following the date set for their signature, the Presidency will subsequently notify as soon as possible to Member States the date set for the signature.

¹ OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43.

² OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20.

7. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council:
- a) adopt, as an "A" item of the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, the Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the short-stay visa waiver as set out in 9771/16 VISA 181 COASI 106 (LA);
 - b) decide to forward the draft Decision on the conclusion as set out in 9775/16 VISA 183 COASI 109 (LA) to the European Parliament for its consent once the Agreement has been duly signed.

The Decision on the signing, together with the text of the Agreement will be published in the OJ in accordance with the applicable rules.
