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**POLGEN 61
INST 265**

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Slovak Presidency - Chairing of certain Working Parties by other delegations, at the request of the Slovak Presidency

The Secretariat wishes to inform the Council that Slovakia, as holder of the Presidency for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2016, has requested, in accordance with Article 20(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, that the Republic of Malta and The Netherlands chair certain Working Parties during this period on behalf of the Slovak Presidency, either for all meetings, for meetings covering certain topics which fall within their remit, or for meetings held outside Brussels.

The list below sets out these arrangements. It is suggested that the Council agrees to these arrangements in accordance with Article 19(4) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

It should be noted that during the Slovak Presidency the International Maritime Organization committee meetings and coordination meetings on the spot in London will be chaired by the Republic of Malta.

Furthermore, it should be noted that during the Slovak Presidency the High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth (G.24) will be chaired by the Dutch representative to that Group, in accordance with the arrangements approved by the Permanent Representatives Committee on 31 October 2014 (15006/14).

Chairing of a Working Party by another delegation
during the period from 1 July to 31 December 2016

Working Party ¹	Chairing delegation
Friends of the Presidency Group on Integrated Maritime Policy (A.16) (including EU Maritime Security Strategy)	Republic of Malta
Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy (F.24, F.25)	Republic of Malta External on the spot coordination meetings will be chaired by The Netherlands
Working Party on International Environment Issues (J.2)	Areas to be chaired by The Netherlands: - CITES - Biosafety - Whaling

¹ Cf. list of Council preparatory bodies in doc. 5183/16.