



Council of the  
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#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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| From:          | General Secretariat of the Council                                                                           |
| To:            | Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council                                                         |
| No. Cion doc.: | 6152/16 SOC 67 EMPL 42 ECOFIN 106 EDUC 29 - COM(2016) 71 final                                               |
| Subject:       | Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States<br>- Adoption |

1. On 16 February 2016, the Commission submitted a proposal based on Article 148(2) TFEU for a Council Decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States. It suggests that the guidelines for Member States' employment policies as set out in the Annex to Council Decision of 5 October 2015<sup>1</sup> should be maintained for 2016.
2. The Employment Committee finalised its opinion at its meeting of 16 February 2016 (doc. 6153/16), agreeing with the Commission's proposal to maintain the 2015 Employment Guidelines.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Decision 2015/1848/EU, of 5 October 2015, on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States (OJ L 268, 15.10.2015, p. 28).

3. At its session on 7 March 2016, the Council (EPSCO) reached a general approach on the proposal, on the understanding that it would be reconsidered once the conclusions of the March European Council were available, and once all the opinions required under Article 148(2) of the TFEU had been received.
  4. The European Council, at its meeting on 17-18 March 2016, considered the employment situation of the Union and adopted conclusions thereon.
  5. The European Parliament's opinion was adopted at its plenary session of 12-15 September. The Economic and Social Committee adopted its opinion at its plenary session of 27-28 April. The Committee of the Regions decided not to issue an opinion.
  6. The text of the draft Decision, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts, is contained in document 12163/16.
  7. The Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council to adopt the draft Decision as set out in document 12163/16 as an "A" item at a forthcoming session.
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