



Brussels, 11 October 2016
(OR. en)

13124/16

FIN 638
INST 411

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: Budget Committee
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject: European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 17/2016: The EU institutions can do more to facilitate access to their public procurement - Draft Council conclusions

1. On 14 September 2016, the Permanent Representatives Committee instructed the Budget Committee to examine the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 7/2016 entitled "The EU institutions can do more to facilitate access to their public procurement"¹ and to draw the relevant conclusions².
2. On 10 October 2016, the Budget Committee reached an agreement on the draft Council conclusions annexed hereto, on the basis of a proposal presented by the Presidency.
3. It is suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee advise the Council to adopt the draft Council conclusions in the Annex as an "A" item on the agenda of a forthcoming meeting.

¹ OJ C 257, 15.7.2016, p. 7.

² Doc. 11899/16 FIN 532 INST 351.

DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

on the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 17/2016: The EU institutions can do more to facilitate access to their public procurement

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:

1. WELCOMES the Court of Auditors' special report on the public procurement of the EU institutions and how to increase the number of potential tenderers.
2. WELCOMES the finding that the EU institutions have robust systems and capable staff to keep the risk of error and irregularities in their procurement procedures under control.
3. ACKNOWLEDGES that an increase of potential contractors available to the EU institutions would result in better value for money and at the same time it would develop market opportunities for companies.
4. TAKES NOTE that the EU institutions are in favour of most of the recommendations of the Court of Auditors subject in some cases to the result of a cost-benefit analysis.
5. INTENDS to examine, in the context of the legislative procedure to revise the Financial Regulation, the scope for addressing the Court of Auditors' recommendations as appropriate.
6. INVITES the Court of Auditors to keep the Council updated in the coming years on the progress made by the EU institutions, especially in the area of widening the participation of tenderers in their procurement procedures.