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'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject: Interinstitutional agreement on the Transparency Register
– Approval of a letter

1. On 28 September 2016, the European Commission adopted a Proposal for an Interinstitutional Agreement on a mandatory Transparency Register (IIA)¹.
2. On 3 November 2016, First Vice-President Frans TIMMERMANS addressed to Mr Ivan KORČOK, President in Office of the Council, a letter in which he invited the Council to nominate its representatives to the High Level Working Group which he proposed as a format for the future negotiations on the new IIA².
3. The General Affairs Group discussed the Council's draft reply at its meetings of 11 and 18 November and endorsed it on 23 November 2016 by silent procedure.
4. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee approve the draft reply to FVP Timmermans, as set out in the Annex to this note, in accordance with the Council's rules of procedure (Article 19(7)(k)).

¹ COM(2016) 627 final.
² 14209/16.

Dear First Vice President,

Thank you for your letter of 3 November 2016 regarding the European Commission proposal for an Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on a mandatory Transparency Register, to which the Council has paid due attention.

Let me reiterate once again that the Council remains committed to giving the fullest possible effect to the principle of transparency.

Therefore, I would like to inform you that, for the negotiations of the proposed IIA, the Council will be represented in the High Level Working Group by its Presidency. I will have the pleasure to assume this responsibility until 31st December 2016.

I look forward to start working with you as well as with European Parliament's negotiators Ms Guillaume and Ms Hübner as soon as our three institutions have finalised their internal preparations.

Yours sincerely,

Ivan Korčok
State Secretary, Plenipotentiary for the Slovak
Presidency of the Council of the EU

cc.: Mr Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament
Ms Sylvie Guillaume, Vice President of the European Parliament
Ms Danuta Hübner, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs