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#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

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The Secretariat wishes to inform the Council that Malta, as holder of the Presidency for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2017, has requested, in accordance with Article 20(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, that the Netherlands and Slovakia chair certain Working Parties during this period on behalf of the Maltese 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.

*Furthermore, it should be noted that during the Maltese 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 January to 30 June 2017

Working Party <sup>1</sup>	Chairing delegation
Working Party on Atomic Questions (B.7)	<i>Slovakia</i>
The officer supporting the CEUMCWG/HTF (C.26) and who will act as his/her deputy	<i>Slovakia</i>
Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) (C.33)	<i>Slovakia</i>
Working Party on Export Credits (D.11)	<i>External on the spot coordination meetings at the International Working Group on Export Credits (IWG) scheduled to be held in Washington as well as at OECD meetings held in Paris, will be chaired by Slovakia.</i>
Working Party on Forestry (F.16)	<i>Slovakia</i>
Working Party on Agricultural Questions (F.17)	<i>Area to be chaired by Slovakia: - Plant Breeder Rights</i>
Working Party on Plant Health (F.19)	<i>Area to be chaired by Slovakia: - Roosendaal Group</i>
Working Party of Veterinary Experts (F.21)	<i>Area to be chaired by Slovakia: - Potsdam Group</i>
Coordination Working Party (F.22)	<i>External on the spot coordination meetings related to the OECD (Seed Schemes) will be chaired by the Netherlands</i>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. list of Council preparatory bodies in doc. 11502/16.

Working Party <sup>1</sup>	Chairing delegation
Codex Alimentarius Working Party (F.23)	<p><i>Areas to be chaired by the Netherlands:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>CCFO - Codex Committee on Fats &amp; Oils</i></li> <li>- <i>CCCF - Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods</i></li> <li>- <i>CCMAS - Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling</i></li> <li>- <i>CCPR - Codex Committee on Pesticides Residues</i></li> <li>- <i>CCFICS - Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems</i></li> <li>- <i>CAC - Codex Alimentarius Commission</i></li> </ul>
Working Party on International Environment Issues (J.2)	<p><i>Areas to be chaired by Slovakia:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Biodiversity</i></li> <li>- <i>CITES</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Areas to be chaired by the Netherlands:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Basel</i></li> <li>- <i>Chemicals/Synergies</i></li> <li>- <i>CLRTAP</i></li> <li>- <i>ESPOO</i></li> <li>- <i>Aarhus</i></li> <li>- <i>TEIA</i></li> <li>- <i>Biosafety</i></li> <li>- <i>Whaling</i></li> <li>- <i>Global</i></li> </ul>