



Brussels, 5 December 2016  
(OR. en)

15022/16

FIN 840  
INST 504  
PE-L 76

#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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From: Budget Committee

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2016 within Section VII - Committee of the Regions - of the general budget for 2016

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1. On 3 November 2016, the Committee of the Regions submitted to the Council proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2016.

The purpose of this proposal is to transfer a global amount of EUR 935 880 from Items 1004 (*Travel and subsistence allowances, attendance at meetings and associated expenditure*), 1420 (*Supplementary services for the translation service*), 1422 (*Expert assistance related to consultative work*) and 2026 (*Security and surveillance of buildings*) to Item 2001 (*Annual lease payments*).

2. The Committee of the Regions proposes to transfer unused appropriations of its 2016 budget to the line covering annual lease payments. The aim of this operation is to free appropriations on this line in the 2017 budget which, in turn, could be used to finance the security refurbishment of the Jacques Delors building entrance hall.
3. The Budget Committee examined this proposal for a transfer at its meetings on 21 and 29 November and on 2 December 2016.

4. Following that examination, the Budget Committee did not reach a position on the proposal for a transfer, as there was no qualified majority neither to approve nor to refuse it, in line with Article 27 of the Financial Regulation.
  3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to advise the Council to take note and to:
    - approve the draft letter in ANNEX 1 to that effect;
    - enter in its minutes the unilateral statement by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom recorded in ANNEX 2.
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**DRAFT LETTER**

from : President of the Council  
to : President of the Committee of the Regions  
copy : President of the European Parliament

Sir,

In accordance with Article 27(4) of the Financial Regulation of 25 October 2012<sup>1</sup>, I inform you that the Council did not take a position on transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2016 within Section VII - Committee of the Regions - of the general budget for 2016.

(Complimentary close).

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1).

**UNILATERAL STATEMENT BY AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CROATIA,  
CYPRUS, THE CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE,  
GERMANY, HUNGARY, IRELAND, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, MALTA, THE  
NETHERLANDS, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN,  
SWEDEN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM**

"Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom take note of transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2016 submitted by the Committee of the Regions. They recall the principle of annuality as a fundamental budgetary principle as laid down in the Financial Regulation and are concerned about transferring funds in one financial year with the sole aim of freeing up funds for the following financial year."

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