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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject: Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European statistical programme 2013-17, by extending it to 2018-2020 (1st reading)
- General approach

Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics¹ lays down that the European Statistical Programme is established for the period corresponding to that of the multiannual financial framework.

That framework sets out priorities and a budget for the period it covers. The current European Statistical Programme, as laid down in Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 and covering the period from 2013 to 2017², is the eighth programme of its kind.

On 7 September 2016, the Commission presented a proposal³ intended to prolong the programme with a view to allowing it to match the duration of the current multiannual financial framework (MFF 2013-2020). Concrete initiatives are to be adopted according to the Ordinary Legislative Procedure.

¹ L87, 31.3.2009, p. 164, as amended by Regulation 2015/759 (L 123, 19.5.2015, p. 90).

² Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17 (L39, 9.2.2013, p. 12)

³ 12056/16 + ADD 1

The proposal facilitates the development, production and dissemination of European statistics under an extended European Statistical Programme for the 2018-2020 period, inter alia, timely social indicators, detailed energy consumption and early estimates of energy balances and an extension of harmonised house price statistics.

The proposal has been discussed in the Working Party on Statistics, most recently on 6 December 2016, where delegations reached an agreement on a text to be adopted by the Council as a "General Approach"⁴, whilst awaiting the opinion of the European Parliament⁵.

On 19 October 2016, the accompanying Commission Impact Assessment was analysed by the Working Party on Statistics. Majority of delegations considered that the Commission's Impact Assessment did not have major omissions or factual mistakes⁶.

The Presidency compromise text, supported by delegations at the Working Party on Statistics on 6 December 2016, provides in particular:

- Objective 2.2.1 concerning environmental accounts and climate change-related statistics, is implemented by actions, such as the development of experimental ecosystem accounts or indicators measuring environmental "*footprints*", to be based on progress already achieved and by using existing data.
- Objective 3.2.1 stipulating that in statistics on key areas of social policy, a methodology for a voluntary gender based survey is developed in cooperation with European institutions acting in this field.
- Objective 3.3.4 concerning agriculture, fisheries and forestry statistics, is complemented by the reference to a common legal basis for agriculture related statistics.

On that basis, the Permanent Representatives Committee is asked to invite the Council to:

- Adopt the "general approach" in 15080/16 ECOFIN 1146 STATIS 101 CODEC 1783 IA 121.
- Revert to the file once the European Parliament Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) has adopted its position.

⁴ The DK delegation entered a general parliamentary scrutiny reservation. The UK delegation entered a parliamentary scrutiny reservation on the proposal's budgetary implications.

⁵ The position of the European Parliament Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) is expected in March 2017.

⁶ 13281/16