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Subject: Council conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 13/2016 on EU assistance for strengthening the public administration in the Republic of Moldova

Delegations will find in the annex the Council conclusions on European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 13/2016 on EU assistance for strengthening the public administration in the Republic of Moldova, adopted by the Council at its 3512nd meeting held on 19 December 2016.

**Council conclusions on European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 13/2016
on EU assistance for strengthening the public administration in the Republic of Moldova**

1. The Council thanks the Court of Auditors for the Special Report No 13/2016 on the Republic of Moldova and takes good note of the conclusions and recommendations made by the Court.
2. The Council takes positive note of the Commission's support to the report and the recommendations. The Council welcomes that the Commission has already addressed a number of key recommendations and invites the Commission to implement all recommendations as soon as possible.
3. The Council calls for a careful and controlled use of budget support, enhanced implementation of the principle of conditionality of EU support as well as improved needs assessments in order to improve the sustainability of EU support to the Republic of Moldova.
4. The Council invites the Commission to inform the ENI Committee regularly on the issues raised by the Court of Auditors' Special Report and to ensure that they are addressed systematically, including through Association Council and Committee meetings, as appropriate. The Council welcomes the intention of the Commission to also inform the Council on how the improved use of EU assistance and of conditionalities allows to achieve the broader political objectives of the EU in the Republic of Moldova, in line with the February 2016 Council Conclusions.
5. The Council welcomes the intention of the Court of Auditors to review the implementation of its recommendation by the Commission in two years.