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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	2 February 2017
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

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Subject:	COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... of 2.2.2017 on the adaptation of Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network

Delegations will find attached document C(2017) 393 final.

Encl.: C(2017) 393 final



Brussels, 2.2.2017
C(2017) 393 final

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

of 2.2.2017

on the adaptation of Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network

(Text with EEA relevance)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE DELEGATED ACT

Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU (hereinafter "the Regulation") contains indicative TEN-T maps for certain neighbouring countries with which the Union has a close cooperation on transport issues: Iceland; Norway and Liechtenstein (EFTA), Switzerland (Land transport agreement), Western Balkans (South East European Transport Observatory-SEETO), Turkey (candidate country), Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Russia (the Eastern Partnership/ Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics).

The Regulation provides for the possibility to adopt delegated acts to adapt those indicative maps based on high-level agreements on transport infrastructure networks between the Union and the neighbouring countries concerned (Article 49(6)).

Such high-level agreement between the Union and Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) , as well as between the Union and Turkey, has been reached on 21 June 2016 at the high-level Ministerial meeting at TEN-T Days in Rotterdam. The concerned Ministers have indeed adopted a Ministerial Declaration on the development of the external dimension of the TEN-T, confirming having reached a high-level agreement on the indicative maps.

The agreement endorsed on 21 June 2016 in Rotterdam is the result of a process conducted with the Eastern Partnership countries and Turkey and concerns the revision of the indicative extension of the comprehensive TEN-T maps, as well as the identification of the core network connections on the comprehensive network maps thus adapted. The objective is to allow the Union to better target its cooperation, including in terms of its financial support, with the Eastern Partnership countries and Turkey.

2. CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION OF THE ACT

The Commission has consulted experts of Member States' competent authorities, in the presence of experts of the European Parliament, on 9 December 2015, 16 March, 28 September and 7 December 2016.

3. LEGAL ELEMENTS OF THE DELEGATED ACT

The delegated act adapts the indicative maps of third countries in the Annex III of the Regulation, as latest amended.

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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU¹, and in particular Article 49(6) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 provides for the possibility to adapt the indicative maps of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) which has been extended to specific neighbouring countries based on high-level agreements on transport infrastructure networks between the Union and the neighbouring countries concerned.
- (2) A high-level agreement on the adaptation of the indicative extension of the comprehensive TEN-T maps and on the identification of the core network connections on the comprehensive network maps was endorsed between the Union and the Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), and between the Union and Turkey - on 21 June 2016 at the high-level Ministerial meeting at the TEN-T Days in Rotterdam. The agreement concerns the lines of the railway and road networks, as well as ports and airports. The adaptation of the indicative comprehensive network maps and, in particular, the identification of the indicative core network should allow the Union to better target its cooperation, including in terms of its financial support, with the Eastern Partnership countries and Turkey.
- (3) Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 should therefore be amended accordingly,

¹ OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 2.2.2017

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER