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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Key findings of the study of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on "Economic benefits of gender equality in the EU" - Information from an EIGE representative

Delegations will find attached a note from the EIGE on the above subject, with a view to the EPSCO Council on 3 March 2017 (AOB item).

The economic benefits of gender equality in the EU

In 2015-2016, the European Institute for Gender Equality commissioned research to assess how improvements in gender equality can contribute to sustainable, inclusive and smart economic growth of the EU.

This study is unique in the EU context, as it uses a robust econometric model to estimate economic impacts of improved gender equality in several broad areas such as education, labour market activity and wages. It also considers the demographic impact of such improvements. No previous study has attempted econometric modelling of such a broad range of potential impacts of improved gender equality in the EU.

The study demonstrates that there is a clear need to introduce gender equality measures as soon as possible, in the key policy areas of education and employment, in order to achieve sustainable socio-economic development and growth.

The economic impacts of gender equality policies compare well against impacts of other labour market and education policies, making gender equality a highly relevant policy measure to promote economic growth. Moreover, the results also show that increased gender equality will help to improve employment, address productivity challenges and population ageing issues in the EU.
