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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 6 September 2017
To: Delegations

Subject: Outcome of the Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights
and Free Movement of Persons (FREMP)

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 3769/17.

2. EU accession to the Istanbul Convention - state of play

The Council Legal Service provided answers to questions previously raised by delegations, in particular on the issue related to the nationality of GREVIO members (interpretation of Article 66(4)b of the Istanbul Convention), and confirmed that the EU can conclude/ratify a mixed international agreement even before all Member States have ratified it. The Commission informed that it is currently working on the draft Code of Conduct to be presented at one of the upcoming FREMP meetings. Delegations that have not yet ratified the Convention shared information on the approximate timeline of their national ratification process.

3. Draft Council conclusions on the application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights in 2016 (11546/17) - Presentation and exchange of views

Delegations went through a first reading of the Presidency draft Council conclusions on the application of the Charter in 2016 and generally welcomed the text. Given that several issues remained open, the Presidency concluded by inviting delegations to submit written comments. A revised draft text as well as further information on the next steps will be made available thereafter. The item will be inscribed on the agenda of next FREMP meeting.

4. Any other business

Public consultation on whistleblower protection - presentation by the Commission

The Commission presented the results of the recently concluded public consultation on whistleblower protection in the EU. It also invited delegations to participate in a workshop with national experts that will take place on 13 October 2017, before the Commission proceed with the finalisation of its impact assessment, expected by the end of the year.
