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(OR. en)

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2017/0162 (NLE)**

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VISA 367  
COEST 237

**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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| From:          | General Secretariat of the Council  |
| To:            | Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council  |
| No. Cion doc.: | 11650/17 + ADD 1  |
| Subject:       | Council Decision establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement between the European Union and Armenia on the facilitation of the issuance of visas, with regard to the adoption of common guidelines for the implementation of that Agreement |

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1. On 25 July 2017, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement between the European Union and Armenia on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to citizens of Armenia, with regard to the adoption of Common Guidelines for the implementation of the Agreement, as set out in 11650/17 VISA 313 COEST 215 + ADD 1.
2. Following examination of the proposal by the Visa Working Party on 18 September 2017, the Presidency concluded that there was an agreement to submit the text of the draft Council Decision to COREPER and the Council with a view to its adoption as an I/A item.

3. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which the United Kingdom does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2000/365/EC of 29 May 2000 concerning the request of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis<sup>1</sup>; the United Kingdom is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
4. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis<sup>2</sup>; Ireland is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
5. In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of the Protocol (No 22) on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
6. The text of the draft Council Decision, and of its Annex, which have undergone the necessary scrutiny by the lawyer-linguists, have been merged into a single document, as set out in 12376/17 VISA 346 COEST 234.
7. On this basis, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest that the Council adopt the Council Decision establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement between the European Union and Armenia on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to citizens of Armenia, with regard to the adoption of common guidelines for the implementation of that Agreement, as set out in 12376/17 VISA 346 COEST 234, as an 'A' item at a forthcoming meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20.