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AVIATION 176
TRANS 412
RECH 360
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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

No. prev. doc.: 12826/14 AVIATION 174 TRANS 408 RECH 356 DATAPROTECT 116
No. Cion doc.: 8777/14 AVIATION 102 TRANS 214 RECH 157 DATAPROTECT 57

Subject: COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL A new era for aviation Opening the
aviation market to the civil use of remotely piloted aircraft systems in a safe
and sustainable manner

Delegations will find attached the questions proposed by the Presidency on the above-mentioned Communication, in view of the Ministerial policy debate at the TTE Council on 8 October 2014.

TRANSPORT COUNCIL 8 OCTOBER 2014

Communication from the Commission - A new era for aviation: opening the aviation market to the civil use of remotely piloted aircraft systems in a safe and sustainable manner

Questions proposed by the Presidency for a policy debate on remotely piloted aircraft systems

(RPAS)

1. *The overall objective of European research and development effort and regulatory initiatives is to accommodate the new technologies of RPAS, and allow for the development of this sector without compromising safety. Ultimately, RPAS could fly as 'normal' air traffic, and be integrated among 'normally piloted' aircraft, in a non-segregated airspace open to general air traffic.*
 - *Do you agree with these overall objectives?*

2. *Whilst RPAS activities are a global market, in specific segments they may retain a local character. A strong European market is the best instrument to make European companies cope with global competitors, hence the need for harmonizing European rules. A good balance of rules should be found in order to avoid hampering local developments and heavy regulatory burden.*
 - *How could a solid partnership between EASA and the national authorities best be organised and how could the regulatory burden for both administrations and industry be kept as light as possible?*

3. *RPAS operations should not affect the fundamental freedoms of European citizens, who might feel concerned about privacy or security.*

– *While the main focus of the future regulatory framework might be on safety, should specific rules on data protection or security be developed? Alternatively, should safety legislation merely facilitate the implementation of the existing framework on data and privacy protection or security?*

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