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## REPORT

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Council

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Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
on personal protective equipment  
= General approach

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### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission presented the above proposal on 1 April 2014.<sup>1</sup> Its main objective is to adapt the provisions of Directive 89/686/E/EC to the "New Legislative Framework" (Reg. 765/2008 and Decision 768/2008) following the example of a large number of other legislative acts in the area of technical harmonisation.

### II. STATE OF PLAY

2. The Council Working Party on Technical Harmonisation examined the proposal on seven occasions since April 2014.

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<sup>1</sup> COM (2014) 186 final.

3. The European Parliament Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) has not yet voted its report on the proposal. Consequently, the European Parliament has not given its opinion at first reading either.
4. The European Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion on 9 July 2014<sup>2</sup>. An opinion from the Committee of the Regions has not been requested.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee on 26 November 2014 examined the text proposed by the Presidency and, with two technical amendments (Article 42 and Annex I, Category I,(b)), agreed to submit it to the Competitiveness Council on 4 December for approval of a General Approach. The amended text is reflected in document 15735/1/14 REV 1.

The UK was not in the position to agree to the text, as it is against the inclusion of dishwashing and oven gloves for domestic use within the scope of the Regulation.

### III. CONCLUSION

In light of the above and given that the European Parliament has not yet given its position at first reading, the Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council (Competitiveness), at its session on 4 December 2014,

- to confirm this agreement in the form of a General Approach.
- to authorize the Presidency to start informal contacts with the representatives of the European Parliament in order to explore the possibilities for an agreement at first reading.

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<sup>2</sup> EESC 2014/2799.