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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	7359/15 CES 17 INST 82 AG 9
Subject:	Council Decision determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee - Adoption

Statement to be entered in the Council minutes.

Joint statement by the German, French and United Kingdom delegations on the Council Decision determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee

"Germany, France and the United Kingdom support the agreement concerning the Council's decision, determining the composition of the European Economic and Social Committee. Germany, France and the United Kingdom do however recall that they consider the current allocation of the number of seats per Member State not to be fully satisfactory, particularly given the demographic criterion explicitly provided for by Article 300(5) of the TFEU. Accordingly, Germany, France and the United Kingdom would like to emphasize that meticulous examination of this issue will need to take place ahead of the Committee's renewal in 2020, so as to better take into account the criteria set by the treaties and particularly that of demographic developments. Lastly, it is important to recall that this decision concerns only the European Economic and Social Committee and cannot set a precedent for other EU institutions."