

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission presented the above proposal on 1 April 2014.¹
2. The Council Working Party on Technical Harmonisation has examined the proposal on seven occasions since April 2014.

¹ doc. 8453/14 + ADD1.

3. The Council agreed on a General Approach on this file on 4 December 2014². At this occasion, the Presidency was also mandated to enter into informal negotiations with the representatives of the European Parliament and the European Commission in order to explore the possibility of an agreement at first reading.
4. The European Parliament Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) adopted its report on the proposal on 23 April 2015.
5. On 11 May 2015, during a first trilogue with the European Parliament on the Cableways proposal, the co-legislators also engaged in a short exchange of views on the Personal Protective Equipment file.
6. On 10 June 2015 Coreper confirmed the negotiation mandate and granted the Presidency a certain degree of flexibility in order to arrive at an agreement at first reading with the European Parliament.³
7. The second trilogue on 16 June 2015 resulted only in little progress. However, at several technical meetings with representatives of the European Parliament and the European Commission an informal agreement could be reached on the outstanding issues within the mandate from Coreper.

II. STATE OF PLAY

8. The key elements of the informal agreement are as follows:
 - a) Dishwashing gloves for private use will be excluded from the scope of the Regulation, oven gloves, however, will stay within the scope. (Recital 9 and Article 2 (2))
 - b) The legal situation of different kinds of decorative products and of certain products intended for private use to protect against atmospheric conditions that are not of an extreme nature or to protect against damp and water is now clarified in recital 9.

² doc. 15735/1/14 REV 1 + COR 1.

³ doc. 9529/15 + ADD 1

- c) The maximum validity period of EU-type examination certificates is still limited to five years as in the original Commission proposal, but a simplified procedure for the renewal of these certificates is being introduced. This simplified procedure can be applied when the manufacturer has not modified the approved type and the harmonised standards or other technical specifications applied by the manufacturer have not been changed and continue to meet the essential health and safety requirements in the light of the state of the art. (Recital 24a and Annex V, point 7)

The complete text of the informal agreement is reflected in doc. 11546/15.

III. CONCLUSION

9. In view of the third and probably final informal trilogue, which should take place within the weeks to come, the Committee is invited
- to endorse the text of the informal agreement as it is reflected in doc. 11546/15, and
 - to mandate the Presidency to complete the informal trilogues with the representatives of the European Parliament and the Commission, on the basis of the text set out in doc. 11546/15, in view of an agreement at first reading.
