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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council

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Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, of the International Labour Organisation with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters
Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, of the International Labour Organisation with regard to matters related to social policy
- *Adoption*

1. On 12 September 2014, the Commission transmitted to the Council two proposals for Council Decisions, corresponding to two different legal bases (judicial cooperation in criminal matters and social policy), to authorise Member States to ratify, in the interests of the EU, the 2014 Protocol to the 1930 Forced Labour Convention of the ILO.
2. The Protocol contains aspects falling under EU competence. The purpose of the proposals is to provide an authorisation for the Member States to ratify the abovementioned Protocol for those parts that fall under Union competence.

3. On 2 March 2015, the Council (COMPET) reached an agreement in principle on the draft Council Decisions.
4. These draft Council Decisions, as finalised by the Legal Linguistic experts (doc. 6731/15 (criminal matters) and doc. 6732/15 (social policy), were forwarded to the European Parliament for its consent.
5. At its plenary sessions on 8 September 2015 and 6 October 2015, the European Parliament gave its consent to the two draft Decisions, respectively, as set out in documents 6731/15 (criminal matters) and 6732/15 (social policy).
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council:
 - i) adopts, as an "A" item:
 - the draft Council Decision authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, of the International Labour Organisation with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters, as finalised by the Legal Linguistic experts and set out in documents 6731/15; and
 - the draft Council Decision authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, of the International Labour Organisation with regard to matters related to social policy, as finalised by the Legal Linguistic experts and set out in documents 6732/15,
 - ii) order that the statements in the addendum to this note be entered into the minutes of that meeting.