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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Protocol No 3 on the Statute of the Court of Justice of the European Union (second reading) - Approval of the European Parliament's amendments (LA + S)

Statement by Germany

Germany welcomes the fact that by doubling the number of judges at the General Court, a structural and sustainable reform is being implemented that will enable the General Court's excessive workload to be reduced and will ensure that legal redress in the European Union is guaranteed within a reasonable time.

At the same time, Germany is aware that increasing the number of judges at the General Court will have a significant financial impact on the Union's budget. Germany is concerned to ensure cost effectiveness of the reform and to minimize its budgetary impact and therefore welcomes the Court's efforts to evaluate the General Court's situation in each phase of its expansion and, where appropriate, to make the necessary adjustments to the General Court's administrative expenditure, but without changing the number of additional judges. Germany likewise supports the Court's commitment to appoint no further legal secretaries or support staff during the third phase in September 2019 when the number of judges is increased by a further nine judges.

In order to support the long-term financing of a thus enlarged General Court, Germany invites the Court of Justice to take all appropriate measures and to give consideration, inter alia, to the possibility of introducing court fees for proceedings before the Courts of the European Union.

Statement by the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom attaches great importance to the proper functioning of the Courts of the European Union. However, we consider it essential that any changes to the operation of an EU Institution are carried out in the most cost effective way. At a time when Member States are exerting tight control over public expenditure, we do not consider it appropriate for reforms at the CJEU to result in greater demands being made on Member States' contributions to the EU budget. We therefore request that the Court continues to work to maximise its efficiency and make savings where possible. Furthermore, any additional costs to the Member States as a result of the increase in judges should be kept to a minimum and be offset by savings within the Court where possible.
