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NOTE

From: Commission

To: Council

Subject: 2015 Report of the SME Envoy Network to the Competitiveness Council
- *Information from the Commission*

The Competitiveness Council of September 2013 decided to improve the monitoring of SME-related policies through the network of SME Envoys. It invited the Envoys to report on a regular basis on the progress achieved in implementing the Small Business Act (SBA) and other initiatives relevant to SMEs.

The first report, which gave an overview of the activities of the Network was presented to the Competitiveness Council in December 2014.

The report for 2015:

- presents an overview of the latest trends in the performance of the EU SMEs,
- summarises the work done on four priorities: SME test in impact assessment, access to finance, reduction of administrative burden and entrepreneurship and
- presents an outline for the activities of the SME Envoy network in 2016 and beyond.

The Commission requested a point on the SME Envoy report to be included in the agenda of the Competitiveness Council of 30 November (under AOB) to allow Ms Bieńkowska, Member of the European Commission for the Internal Market and the EU SME Envoy, to present the progress achieved in implementing the Small Business Act (SBA) as requested by the Council, based on the report of the SME Envoys Network 2015.
