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European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

No. Cion doc.: 13501/15 ECO 134 ENT 230 MI 676 UNECE 11 + ADD 1

Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of Revision 3 of the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for the reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions ('Revised 1958 Agreement')
- Preparation for the request for the consent of the European Parliament

1. On 27 October 2015 the Commission submitted to the Council the above proposal.
2. The Revised 1958 Agreement is the key instrument setting out the international framework for the harmonisation of technical regulations in the automotive sector. The present proposal aims at the conclusion of the Revision 3 of this Agreement. This Revision introduces certain changes which will address the procedures for developing, amending and adopting technical regulations for motor vehicles as well as their implementation by the Contracting Parties and the conditions for granting type approvals and their mutual recognition.

3. The Working Party on Technical Harmonisation (Motor Vehicles) examined this proposal on 15 December 2015 and on 18 January and 3 February 2016. At this last meeting a majority of delegations could agree in principle to the proposed Council Decision and to request the consent of the European Parliament. Some delegations expressed reservations preferring to postpone such a Decision until the new proposal for a Regulation on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles¹ is further advanced in its examination so that elements of it can be incorporated in the Revision 3 of the 1958 Agreement.

The text of the Commission proposal set out in document 13501/15 + ADD 1 has not been amended by the Working Party, only finalised by the lawyer linguists in document 13954/15.

4. **The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to:**
- **confirm the agreement in principle reached by the Working Party,**
 - **suggest that the Council decides to forward the text of this draft Decision, as set out in document 13954/15 prepared by the lawyer-linguists, to the European Parliament for its consent, with a view to its subsequent adoption.**

¹ doc. 5712/16 + ADD 1