



Brussels, 19 February 2016

6034/16

**STAT 7
FIN 89
INST 48
BUDGET 4**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: Working Party on the Staff Regulations
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject: Draft Council Regulation (EU) No .../2016 determining the emoluments of EU high-level public office holders
- Adoption

1. The draft Council Regulation determining the emoluments of EU high-level public office holders is based on various pre-existing Council Regulations and Council Decisions establishing the salaries, allowances and pensions of Presidents and members of EU institutions, Judges and Advocates-General of the European Court of Justice, including the Secretary-General of the Council, on the basis of Article 243 and Article 286(7) TFEU. For reasons of simplification, legal clarity and better regulation, it was considered appropriate to codify them into one single Council Regulation.

2. From a content perspective, the new draft Council Regulation seeks to modernise the system of remuneration of EU high-level public office holders by undertaking some adjustments reflecting, where necessary, the amendments introduced to the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Union by Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1023/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. These adjustments introduce, *inter-alia*, a reduction of the percentage of reimbursement for any removal costs, the limitation of the length of the transitional allowance to the effective duration of the term of office (with a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years) in conjunction with the increase of the pensionable age and the decrease of the annual pension accrual rate.

3. The Working Party on the Staff Regulations (WPSR) examined the first drafts of the proposed Council Regulation during the Luxembourg Presidency, at its meetings on 3, 11 and 17 December 2015. A revised and entirely reformatted version of the text, which took account of suggestions put forward by several delegations during previous WPSR meetings, was presented on 12 January 2016¹. Its technical examination was concluded successfully on 19 January 2016 and the Permanent Representatives Committee approved the text on 27 January 2016.

4. The UK abstained from voting, whilst AT voted against introducing a statement into the Committee minutes. FR and IT maintain a parliamentary and a general scrutiny reserve respectively. The applicable majority rules are those referred to in Article 238(2) TFEU.

5. Following the legal-linguistic review of the final text, which was based on the draft approved by the Permanent Representatives Committee on 27 January 2016², the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest to the Council to adopt, as an "A" item on the agenda of its forthcoming meetings, the Council Regulation as set out in doc. 5444/16 STAT 4 FIN 42 INST 13 BUDGET 3.

¹ ST 5147/16.

² ST 5406/16.