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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| To: | Permanent Representatives Committee/Council |
| No. prev. doc.: | 6344/18 |
| Subject: | COUNCIL DECISION on the appointment of the Executive Director of Europol |

1. The term of office of the current Executive Director of Europol will expire on 1 May 2018. It is therefore necessary to appoint a new Executive Director of Europol.
2. A vacancy notice for the post of Executive Director of Europol has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* on 23 May 2017¹.
3. In accordance with Article 54(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/794 on Europol, the Executive Director shall be appointed by the Council from a shortlist of candidates proposed by the Management Board of Europol. Before appointment, the candidate selected by the Council may be invited to appear before the competent committee of the European Parliament, which shall subsequently give a non-binding opinion.

¹ OJ C 162A, 23.5.2017, p. 1.

4. On the basis of a report drawn up by a Selection Committee and transmitted to the Management Board on 19 September 2017, the Management Board issued a reasoned opinion on 3 October 2017 on the appointment of the Executive Director of Europol, in which it proposed a shortlist of three candidates suitable for the post to the Council.
5. On 18 December 2017, the Council selected Ms Catherine DE BOLLE, a Belgian national, as the next Executive Director of Europol, and informed the competent committee of the European Parliament about her selection for the purposes of the above mentioned hearing.
6. On 29 January 2018, the selected candidate appeared before the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee of the European Parliament, which gave its opinion on 1 March 2018.
7. COREPER is therefore invited to:
 - recommend that the Council adopt the Council Decision on the appointment of the Executive Director of Europol, as set out, after finalisation of the text by the legal/linguistic experts, in 6344/18;
 - decide to publish the Council Decision in the Official Journal.