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14339/17

POLGEN 144
POLMAR 31
COMAR 38
ASIE 55
COASI 190
CLIMA 306
ENV 930
ENER 444
AGRI 627
PECHE 442
DEVGEN 255
CONUN 262
RELEX 980
TRANS 481
TOUR 15

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council

Subject: EU-China Ocean Partnership
= Authorization to open negotiations

1. On 31 October 2017 and 13 November 2017, the Friends of the Presidency Working Group - Integrated Maritime Policy (FoP IMP) examined the text of a Draft declaration concerning the establishment of an Ocean Partnership between the European Union and the Government of the People's Republic of China. At the end of its examination, and subsequently by informal silence procedure, the group reached an agreement on the text set out in doc. 14919/17. It should be considered as a basis on which the Commission will enter into negotiations for an Ocean Partnership with China.

2. It is understood that the Commission will revert to the Council at the end of the negotiations to seek the Council's authorization for the signature of the instrument on behalf of the Union.
 3. In the light of the foregoing, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest to the Council that it authorizes the Commission to open negotiations on the EU-China Ocean Partnership.
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