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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: European Semester: Council Recommendations on the National Reform Programmes 2018 to each Member State and draft Council Opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes
= Adoption

Under the European Semester 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council on 23 May, for 27 Member States, a Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2018, and delivering a Council Opinion on the updated Stability or Convergence Programme.

These recommendations combine economic and employment recommendations, based on Articles 121(2) and 148(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), with Council opinions on stability and convergence programmes, based on Articles 5(2) and 9(2) of Regulation 1466/97, and, in certain cases, with recommendations on the preventive part of the macroeconomic imbalances procedure under Article 6(1) of Regulation 1176/2011.

Bearing in mind that recommendations falling within the scope of Article 148(4) TFEU form an integral part of the country-specific recommendations and that their content is inextricably linked to that corresponding to the Stability and Growth pact, the procedure under Article 121(2) TFEU should apply to both parts of the recommendations.

These draft recommendations were approved by EPSCO on 21 June, regarding the employment and social aspects, and by ECOFIN on 22 June, as regards the economic/financial and MIP-related aspects. The draft recommendations were endorsed by the European Council on 28-29 June.

The ECOFIN Council is invited to proceed on 13 July to the formal adoption of the texts set out in the annex of document 9454/18.
