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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
No. Cion doc.:	ST 12349/18 TRANS 403 MAR 129
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the European Committee for drawing up Standards in the field of Inland Navigation and in the Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine on the adoption of standards concerning professional qualifications in inland navigation - Adoption

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission submitted to the Council on 17 September 2018 the above-mentioned proposal for a Council Decision on the Union position at the European Committee for drawing up Standards in the field of Inland Navigation (CESNI) and in the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR).
2. CESNI will convene in Prague, Czechia, on 8 November 2018. The date of CCNR meeting deciding on this matter is not known yet.
3. The Union is not a contracting party to CESNI, but all Member States may participate and vote in CESNI meetings. The Union is not a contracting party to CCNR, either. Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands, in addition to Switzerland, are the contracting parties to CCNR.

II. WORK AT THE PREPARATORY BODY

4. The Shipping Working Party examined the proposal and endorsed the draft as presented by the Commission on 25 September 2018.

III. CONCLUSIONS

5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to endorse the draft Decision and to submit for adoption by the Council (ECOFIN) on 6 November 2018, as presented in document 12437/18 and revised by the lawyer-linguists.
 6. The Council is invited to adopt the Decision.
 7. Once adopted, the European Parliament will be informed about the Council Decision.
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