



Council of the  
European Union

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#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
Subject:	Draft Council Decision on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, with regard to a proposal for amending Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean at the twentieth ordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean
	- Adoption

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1. The Commission submitted the above-mentioned proposal <sup>1</sup>, based on Article 192(1) and 218(9) of the TFEU, to the Council on 19 October 2017.
2. On 26 October the Commission presented the proposal to the Working Party on International Environment Issues (WPIEI) on 26 October. Further on, the Presidency prepared a draft Council Decision <sup>2</sup> bringing the original Commission proposal in line with other similar Decisions recently adopted by Council <sup>3</sup>. The Working Party on the Environment (WPE) examined the Presidency text at its meeting on 17 November and agreed to it.

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<sup>1</sup> 13486/17 - COM(2017) 603 final + ADD 1.

<sup>2</sup> 14112/17.

<sup>3</sup> 12766/17.

3. Given that the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 20) of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) will take place from 17 to 20 December 2017 in Tirana (Albania), the Committee of Permanent Representatives is invited to recommend that the Council:

- adopt, by qualified majority (with all Member States voting in favour), the draft Council Decision contained in document 14694/17 (text finalised by the Lawyers-Linguists) as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming sessions;
  - decide not to publish the Decision in accordance with Article 17(2)(b) of its Rules of Procedure; and
  - decide to inform the European Parliament of the adoption of the above-mentioned Decision in accordance with Article 218(10) of the TFEU.
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