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**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Draft Council Decision appointing the members of the Scientific and  
Technical Committee

- Adoption
- *Statement by the Commission*

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**COUNCIL DECISION APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**COMMISSION STATEMENT**

The European Commission was consulted, in terms of Article 134 of the Euratom Treaty, before the Council of the EU appoints nominees proposed by the Member States to the Euratom Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) for the period 2018-2023.

The Commission notes that despite having raised the issue on several occasions, only four out of 42 nominees (just over 9%) are women. The Commission finds it hard to believe that European countries in 2018 are unable to identify female experts. In view of the inter-institutional consensus on gender equality in research and innovation and the importance of diversity in the composition of expert groups, greater effort should have been made to ensure more gender balance in this Committee. The Commission will make public its views.