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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
No. prev. doc.:	ST 13340/18 TRANS 463
No. Cion doc.:	ST 12727/18 TRANS 426 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Group of Experts on the European Agreement concerning the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transport of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe – adoption

1. The European agreement concerning the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transport (AETR) aims to harmonise the legislative framework of Contracting Parties as regards driving and rest times for professional drivers as well as the technical requirements related to the use of tachographs. It entered into force on 5 January 1976 and all Member States are parties to it.
2. The Commission submitted a proposal for establishing a new EU position within AETR on 2 October 2018. The proposal aims at better security and data protection standards for the non-EU Contracting Parties by redirecting their connection to the TACHOnet, the telematic network for automatic exchange of information on driver cards, via the eDelivery platform developed by the Commission. The relevant standards should be set out in an additional appendix to AETR. AETR and TACHOnet experts from the Commission and Member States had prepared the details of that appendix.

3. At the Working Party on Land Transport on 8 October 2018 the proposal received general support, whereby some delegations entered scrutiny reservations. Delegations were requested to submit observations by the end of October 2018. The group agreed that a formal submission to the AETR group of experts should be foreseen after the group of expert meeting of 15 October 2018, following adoption of the EU position. The Presidency slightly amended the proposal in order to take this into account.¹
 4. Following the expiry of the deadline for comments, it is suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee recommend that the Council, at one of its forthcoming sessions, adopts the draft decision, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts (doc. 13711/18), together with its attachment (doc. 13711/18 ADD 1), in view of its formal submission to the AETR Group of Experts and UNECE Working Party on Road Transport. The European Parliament will be informed accordingly.
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¹ See doc. ST 13340/18.