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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Special Committee on Agriculture

Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the definition, description, presentation and labelling of spirit drinks, the use of the names of spirit drinks in the presentation and labelling of other foodstuffs, the protection of geographical indications for spirit drinks, the use of ethyl alcohol and distillates of agricultural origin in alcoholic beverages, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 110/2008 **(first reading)**
- Adoption of the legislative act

1. On 1 December 2016 the Commission sent the above proposal¹, based on Article 43(2) and Article 114(1) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 29 March 2017².
3. On 13 March 2019 the European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on the Commission proposal. The outcome of voting in the European Parliament reflects the compromise agreement reached between the institutions and should, therefore, be acceptable to the Council³.

¹ 15121/16.

² OJ C 2019, 30.6.2017, p. 54.

³ 7063/19.

4. The Special Committee on Agriculture is therefore asked to confirm its agreement and to suggest that the Council:
- approve the European Parliament's position, as set out in PE-CONS 75/18, as an "A" item at a forthcoming meeting, with Greece voting against and Hungary abstaining;
 - decide that the statements in the addendum to this note be entered in the minutes of that meeting.

If the Council approves the European Parliament's position, the legislative act will be adopted.

After being signed by the President of the European Parliament and the President of the Council, the legislative act will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.
