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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: Draft Council Decision authorising Member States to become party, in the interest of the European Union, to the Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security, and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events (CETS n°218)
- Adoption

1. On 27 April 2018, the Commission transmitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the abovementioned subject¹.
2. The Council of Europe Convention on an Integrated Safety, Security and Service Approach at Football Matches and Other Sports Events ('the Convention') was done on 3 July 2016 and has been open for signature and ratification since then.
3. However, certain provisions of the Convention may fall under the exclusive competence of the Union within the meaning of Article 3(2) of the TFEU, as they coincide with certain obligations contained in Council Decision 2002/348/JHA concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension.

¹ 8577/18.

4. While Union support for the Convention is important, the Union cannot become party to the Convention, as only States can be parties thereto. Member States should therefore be authorised to sign and ratify the Convention, acting jointly in the interest of the Union, in respect of the provisions which fall under the exclusive competence of the Union.
5. The United Kingdom and Ireland are bound by Decision 2002/348/JHA, and are therefore taking part in the adoption of this Decision.
6. The Law Enforcement Working Party examined the above proposal at its meeting on 21 June 2018 and endorsed its text with one change. The draft Council Decision was submitted to legal-linguistic revision, with the resulting text being set out in 12527/18.
7. At its meeting on 11 October 2018, the Council agreed in principle on the draft Council Decision, as set out in 12527/18, and decided to forward it to the European Parliament for consent.
8. The European Parliament granted its consent with the Draft Council Decision on 12 March 2019².
9. In the light of the above, COREPER is invited to recommend that the Council, as an "A" item of the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings:
 - a) adopts the Council Decision, as set out in 12527/18,
 - b) decides to publish the Council Decision in the Official Journal of the European Union.

² The date of consent by the European Parliament will be inserted in the relevant recital at the moment of the publication of the Council Decision in the Official Journal.