



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Gender balance on company boards
Information from the Commission

Delegations will find in the Annex a note for information from the Commission on the above subject, with a view to the meeting of the Council (EPSCO) on 13 June 2019 (Any Other Business item).

Gender balance on company boards
- information from the Commission -

The Commission refers to the latest data confirming the positive impact of gender diversity in management on business performance, but also to data indicating that the EU still scores low when it comes to equality in decision-making, and that the gap between Member States is widening.

The Commission would use the opportunity to encourage those Member States, which recently implemented national measures to share them with the other Member States, in order to inspire them to follow suit in promoting gender balance in corporate decision-making. Indeed, the proposed Directive leaves Member States the flexibility to maintain their own existing, effective measures aiming at improving gender balance in corporate boards.

It will also be an opportunity for the Commission to highlight the role of the recently adopted Work-life balance Directive in ensuring a better share of domestic responsibilities between women and men, which would have an impact on women empowerment and give them more opportunities to participate in business leadership.