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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	12217/19 + ADD 1, 12732/2/19 REV 2
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2019) 417 final + ANNEX
Subject:	Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with the Republic of Cabo Verde for the conclusion of an agreement amending the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on facilitating the issue of short-stay visas to citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and of the European Union - Adoption

1. On 13 September 2019, the Commission submitted a recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on an Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde amending the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on facilitating the issue of short-stay visas to citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and of the European Union together with negotiating directives in the annex to the recommendation¹.
2. The Presidency convened two JHA Counsellors meetings to discuss the proposal. They were held on 27 September and 4 October 2019. Delegations broadly supported the rationale of the recommendation as well as the draft negotiating directives. Regarding the latter, requests for amendments were made, in particular concerning the point on the visa fee.

¹ 12217/19 + ADD 1

3. The Presidency revised the text after the first JHA Counsellors meeting² and further changes were introduced after the second meeting³. The latter changes were circulated to delegations and agreed upon on 8 October 2019 through an informal silence procedure.
4. The draft Decision has been revised by the legal-linguistic experts. It is set out in 12898/19. The final version of the negotiating directives is set out in the addendum to that document.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend that the Council adopt, as an ‘A’ item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming sessions, the draft Council Decision as set out in 12898/19, which refers to the negotiating directives as set out in 12898/19 ADD 1.

² 12732/19

³ 12732/1/19 REV 1, 12732/2/19 REV 2