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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Presentation of the European Education Area Progress Report and launch of the Learning Lab on Investing in Quality Education and Training <i>- Information from the Commission</i>

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Commission on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under 'Any other business' for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 28 November 2022.

Presentation of the European Education Area Progress Report and launch of the Learning Lab on Investing in Quality Education and Training

Background note from the European Commission

Objective

The Commission will present the European Education Area Progress Report and announce the official launch of the Learning Lab on Investing in Quality Education and Training.

Context

The Council Resolution on a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training towards the European Education Area and beyond (2021-2030)¹ from February 2021 announces that in 2022, the Commission will publish a **European Education Area Progress Report**². The report aims to take stock of the progress made towards the European Education Area in the context of the strategic cooperation framework, and to propose next steps towards achieving the Area by 2025. Following its planned adoption in November, the report would be presented for the first time in the Education Council meeting, under A.O.B. The Education and Training Monitor 2022 would also be part of the Progress Report package.

¹ 2021/C 66/01.

² Commission Communication on progress towards the achievement of the European Education Area.

The aforementioned Council Resolution also states that the attainment of the European Education Area calls for an increased focus on investment in education. At the Ministerial Conference on investing in education that was organised under the mandate of the French Presidency of the Council in February 2022, Commissioner Gabriel announced her intention to create a **Learning Lab on Investing in Quality Education and Training** at the end of this year. The idea was reiterated in the inter-governmental Declaration to build a shared vision of effective, efficient and equitable investment in education, initiated by the French Presidency of the Council in April 2022.

The Learning Lab will provide relevant authorities with knowledge, tools, methods, and resources they could use in order to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of their public spending on education and training and will encourage an evidence-informed approach to policy design and implementation in education and training. It will bring together the Commission (in its supporting role) and the relevant authorities in the Member States, who can participate in this initiative on a voluntary basis.

This A.O.B. will hence serve as an opportunity to officially launch the Learning Lab.
