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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Deep Tech Talent initiative and pledge
	- Information from the Commission

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 <u>Education</u>, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 28 November 2022.

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Deep Tech Talent initiative and pledge

Background note from the European Commission

Objective

The Commission will present the Deep Tech Talent Initiative and its Call for Pledges. The Deep Tech Talent Initiative is one of the flagship initiatives of the New European Innovation Agenda to train 1 million deep tech talents over a 3-year period across all Member States. It is implemented by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

Context

Research and Innovation are critical levers to ensure and boost Europe's resilience, growth and competitiveness.

A new wave of innovation is on its way: deep tech innovation, rooted in cutting edge science, technology and engineering. High quality education is key to overcoming the skills gap and attracting talent, which are needed for Europe to take a leading role in deep tech innovation.

On 5 July 2022, the Commission adopted the New European Innovation Agenda. The agenda has five flagships: (1) Access to finance, (2) Framework conditions for deep tech innovation, (3) Innovation ecosystems, (4) Deep tech talents; and (5) Innovation policy-making.

The Deep Tech Talent Initiative is part of the Deep tech talents flagship. Given their experience in education and training programmes in deep tech fields, the EIT and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) have been tasked to lead its implementation.

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The aim of the initiative is to skill, upskill and re-skill at least 1 million deep tech talents in the next three years. To reach this ambitious goal, the EIT will mobilise its network of over 3,000 partners and hubs across Europe. At the same time, the attainment of the target will require the support and contribution of all stakeholders at all levels. The Deep Tech Talent Initiative is expected to be fully operational as of January 2023.

The Call for Pledges of the Deep Tech Talent Initiative was launched at the EIT Summit in Brussels on 11 October. The EIT invites education and training providers, companies and industrial players, financing partners and institutional partners, such as public authorities, to make a Pledge to support this initiative by, for example, identifying, developing, scaling up or delivering deep tech trainings, providing funding, finding sponsors, identifying partners or raising awareness.

Member States' role as levers and vectors of this initiative is key.

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