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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: Draft DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL to strengthen the application of the principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value between men and women through pay transparency and enforcement mechanisms **(first reading)**
- Adoption of the legislative act

1. On 4 March 2021 the Commission submitted its proposal¹, based on Article 157(3) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 9 June 2021².
3. On 30 March 2023 the European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on the Commission proposal. The outcome of voting in the European Parliament reflects the compromise agreement reached between the institutions and should, therefore, be acceptable to the Council³.

¹ 6750/21 + CO1RE1; ADD 1-3.

² OJ C 341, 24.8.2021, p. 84.

³ 7797/23.

4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore asked to confirm its agreement and to suggest that the Council approve the European Parliament's position, as set out in PE-CONS 81/22, as an 'A' item at a forthcoming meeting, with Bulgaria, Hungary and Sweden voting against and Germany and Latvia abstaining.
5. The statements for the minutes of the Council meeting are set out in the Addendum to this note.
6. If the Council approves the European Parliament's position, the legislative act will be adopted.

After being signed by the Presidents of the European Parliament and of the Council, the legislative act will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
