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#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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ST 8539/23 + ADD 1 - 6

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Subject: High-level agreements between the EU and Western Balkan partners (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) on the adaptation of the indicative map of neighbouring countries within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 (TEN-T Regulation)

- Authorisation to sign a non-binding instrument

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1. On 21 February 2022, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations on high-level agreements<sup>1</sup> between the EU and Western Balkan partners (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) on transport infrastructure networks with a view to adopting, following the signature of those non-binding instruments, delegated acts, which will adapt the existing indicative maps of neighbouring countries within the meaning of Article 49(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 (TEN-T Regulation). The changes concern railway, inland waterway and road infrastructure (see addenda 1 to 6 this note) on the territory of the six Western Balkan partners.
2. The Working Party on Transport – Intermodal Questions and Networks was informed by the Commission on the state of play of the negotiations on 21 April 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> 6051/22 + COR 1.

3. Subsequently, the Commission presented the draft high-level agreements to the Working Party on 28 April 2023. Delegations did not raise objections to the signature of the high-level agreements in question.
4. A date for the signature of the high-level agreements has been scheduled for 16 May during the Connectivity Summit.
5. In the light of the foregoing, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest that the Council authorise the signature of the high-level agreements as set out in addenda 1 to 6 to this note.

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