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NOTE

From: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
To: Council

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Subject: Conclusions on Better Regulation "Ensuring competitiveness and sustainable, inclusive growth" (*Non-legislative activity*)
- Joint statement by Belgium, France and Luxembourg

Delegations will find attached a joint statement by Belgium, France and Luxembourg to be entered in the Council minutes at the time of adoption of the conclusions on Better Regulation.

**Statement by Belgium, France and Luxembourg
on better regulation**

The Belgian, French and Luxembourg delegations:

- recall that the goals of simplifying European Union legislation should be pursued without prejudice to the achievement of the policy objectives of the Union or to safeguarding the integrity of the internal market, in accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016;
- stress the need to put in place an EU regulatory framework that is effective, coherent, simple, clear and of a high quality, which focuses on the areas where its added value is greatest and which seeks to cut the cost of non-Europe resulting from the fragmentation of national rules;
- highlight the importance of making use of the most efficient regulatory instruments, such as harmonisation and mutual recognition, in order to avoid overregulation and administrative burdens;
- take note of the Commission's intention to introduce a 'one-in, one-out' method at European level but consider that, in any event, such a new instrument should be contemplated with all necessary caution and introduced on a step-by-step basis, that it should respect the integrity of the Union acquis, that it should not be based on a purely mechanical logic of quantitative reduction, and that it should be subject to continuous evaluation;
- believe, in this regard, that it would be preferable to wait for the Commission's initiative, scheduled for April 2020, before deciding on an instrument which is not currently part of the better regulation toolbox.