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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Draft Council Conclusions on Mainstreaming a gender equality perspective in policies, programmes, and budgets

- *Approval*
- *Statements by the Hungarian and Polish delegations*

Delegations will find in the annex statements by the Hungarian and Polish delegations in relation to the abovementioned draft conclusions.

STATEMENT BY HUNGARY

Hungary believes that the Presidency's approach towards gender equality is based on a delicately balanced compromise therefore we support the current approach of the *Council Conclusions on mainstreaming a gender equality perspective in policies, programmes and budgets*.

Hungary is committed to promoting work-life balance and encouraging women's participation in the labour market, especially in areas where women are underrepresented compared to men, since providing adequate opportunities for women and men play a vital role in economic growth, prosperity and competitiveness. However we consider it important that we provide the Member States with the necessary flexibility with regard to financial matters and by bearing in mind the feasibility of the measures to avoid creating unnecessary administrative burdens.

Hungary is supporting women and men in vulnerable situations caused by crises and considers it important to promote gender equality in the context of the post- pandemic recovery from COVID-19 also defined as a priority in the *Council Conclusions on mainstreaming a gender equality perspective in policies, programmes and budgets*.

Hungary recognises and promotes equality between men and women in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Hungary and the primary law, principles and values of the European Union, as well as commitments and principles stemming from international law. Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental value. In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets the term 'gender' as a reference to 'sex' in the *Council Conclusions on mainstreaming a gender equality perspective in policies, programmes and budgets*.

Furthermore, Hungary declares that the Commission's Communication on 'A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025' referred to in the *Council Conclusions on mainstreaming a gender equality perspective in policies, programmes and budgets* should be interpreted with due regard to the national competences and the specific circumstances in each Member State.

STATEMENT BY POLAND

OŚWIADCZENIE POLSKI DO PROJEKTU KONKLUZJI RADY W SPRAWIE UWZGLĘDNIANIA PERSPEKTYWY RÓWNOŚCI PŁCI W OBSZARACH POLITYKI, PROGRAMACH I BUDŻETACH

Równość kobiet i mężczyzn została zapisana w Traktatach Unii Europejskiej jako podstawowe prawo. Polska zapewnia równość kobiet i mężczyzn w ramach polskiego krajowego systemu prawnego zgodnie z międzynarodowymi traktatami praw człowieka oraz w ramach podstawowych wartości i zasad Unii Europejskiej. Z tych powodów, wyrażenie "gender equality" Polska będzie interpretowała jako równość kobiet i mężczyzn, zgodnie z art. 2 i 3 Traktatu o Unii Europejskiej oraz art. 8 i 157 para 3 Traktatu o Funkcjonowaniu Unii Europejskiej. W związku z powyższym, pozostałe wyrażenia zawierające termin "gender", Polska będzie interpretowała jako płeć ("sex"), zgodnie z art. 10, art. 19 para 1 oraz art. 157 para 2 i 4 Traktatu o Funkcjonowaniu Unii Europejskiej.

COURTESY TRANSLATION PROVIDED BY THE DELEGATION

STATEMENT BY POLAND ON THE DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON MAINSTREAMING A GENDER EQUALITY PERSPECTIVE IN POLICIES, PROGRAMMES, AND BUDGETS

Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Poland ensures equality between women and men within the Polish national legal system in accordance with international human rights treaties and within the framework of the fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, the expression "gender equality" will be interpreted by Poland as equality between women and men, in accordance with Article 2 and 3 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 8 and 157 para 3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. In connection with the above, the remaining expressions containing the term "gender" will be interpreted by Poland as "sex", in accordance with Article 10, Article 19 para 1 and Article 157 para 2 and 4 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.