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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Rome's candidacy to host EXPO 2030 – Information from the Italian delegation

Delegations will find in the Annex an information note from the Italian delegation on the above subject, to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the Council (Environment) meeting on 20 June 2023.

Rome's candidacy to host EXPO 2030**- Information from the Italian delegation -**

Italy presented to the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) Rome's application to host EXPO 2030. The theme of Rome's candidacy is "*People and Territories: Regeneration, Inclusion and Innovation*", which is strongly linked to our endeavours on the green and digital transitions.

The candidacy focuses on what has been achieved, to date, in terms of the EU's commitment on climate neutrality by 2050 under the Green Deal and the UN 2030 Agenda. The aim is to give new momentum to increasingly ambitious goals. The timing of such a historically significant Universal Exposition together with the completion of the UN Agenda and of meeting the EU target for 2030 offers us a unique opportunity to analyse the results achieved through our joint efforts and, at the same time, to look forward to the future.

The EXPO site would, in some regards, resemble a mosaic thanks to the widespread use of solar panels. This energy infrastructure would constitute Italy's first Net-Zero Carbon Community, an ecosystem capable of meeting its own energy needs. In addition, it would provide energy to thousands of families living next to the site. As such, it would be a model for a sustainable future.

Each national pavilion will remain at the exclusive disposal of the participating country even after the Exposition, practically becoming part of an international educational and scientific research hub. Furthermore, these pavilions will be built based on the circularity principle in order to guarantee the overall sustainability of the event. In addition, being energetically self-sufficient, the pavilions embody the energy strategy we wish to pursue: a de-carbonised future built on our skills, research and cooperation.

Rome's would be the only EU candidacy for 2030: Rome EXPO 2030 can be the showcase of the leading role the European Union has adopted globally in the context of the green transition.

Stressing the importance to bring back EXPO to Europe, Italy wishes to reiterate its support for Ukraine's reconstruction. In fact, should Rome be selected, Italy is ready to provide Ukraine and the city of Odessa with a central role within the Exposition.

With the support of all EU Member States, the choice of Rome would be a success for the entire European Union.
