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**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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**From:** General Secretariat of the Council  
**To:** Permanent Representatives Committee (part 2)/Council

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**Subject:** European Semester 2023: Council Recommendations on the 2023 National Reform Programmes and delivering Council opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes  
– Adoption

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Under the European Semester 2023, the Commission submitted to the Council on 24 May 2023, for 27 Member States Recommendations for Council Recommendations on the 2023 National Reform Programmes and delivering Council Opinions on the updated 2023 Stability or Convergence Programmes.

These recommendations combine economic and employment recommendations, based on Articles 121(2) and 148(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), with Council opinions on stability and convergence programmes, based on Articles 5(2) and 9(2) of Regulation 1466/97, and, in certain cases, with recommendations on the preventive part of the macroeconomic imbalances procedure (MIP) under Article 6(1) of Regulation 1176/2011.

Bearing in mind that recommendations falling within the scope of Article 148(4) TFEU form an integral part of the country-specific recommendations and that their content is inextricably linked to that corresponding to the Stability and Growth Pact, the procedure under Article 121(2) TFEU should apply to both parts of the recommendations.

The Council discussed the contribution on employment and social policies aspects of these recommendations on 12 June 2023, and the contribution on economic, financial and macroeconomic imbalance procedure-related aspects, including a note explaining the amendments to the Commission's recommendations introduced by the Council in accordance with Article 2-ab(2) of Regulation 1466/97, on 16 June 2023, subject to the legal linguistic revision.

The European Council held a discussion on the texts at its meeting on 29–30 June 2023, and the legal linguistic revision has been finalised.

The Permanent Representatives Committee could therefore suggest that the Council decides to adopt as an "A" item at a forthcoming meeting:

- The texts of the country-specific recommendations, as set out in doc. ST 9903/23, and the accompanying explanatory note, as set out in doc. ST 9902/1/23 REV 1.