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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION on developing social economy framework conditions - Adoption

I. INTRODUCTION

On 13 June 2023, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Recommendation on developing social economy framework conditions. The Recommendation includes measures which foster the role of the social economy in labour market integration and social inclusion, as well as measures supporting an enabling environment, considering access to funding, to markets and public procurement, state aid and taxation. It also includes measures for an increased visibility and recognition of the sector.

The social economy has various degrees of development in the Member States and a potential that is still largely untapped.

This proposal is based on Article 292 in conjunction with Article 149 and Article 153, points (h) and (j) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The Council shall act by qualified majority.

II. STATE OF PLAY

The proposal was presented by the Commission to the Social Questions Working Party on 10 July 2023 and examined by the Working Party at its meetings on 11 and 26 September. An informal written consultation was concluded on 28 September with overall support for the compromise text.

Based on this support, the Council (EPSCO) reached a political agreement on the compromise text, as set out in document 13287/23, at its session on 27 October 2023. The statement from Hungary set out in doc. 13287/23 ADD 1 was entered in the Council minutes.

The text that was subject of the political agreement has undergone legal linguistic revision and is to be found in doc. 14113/23.

After the Recommendation has been adopted, it will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend to the Council (AGRIFISH) to adopt, at its session on 20 November 2023, the Council Recommendation on developing social economy framework conditions contained in doc. 14113/23.