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Subject:	Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2007/2/EC as regards certain reporting requirements for infrastructures for spatial information - Letter to the Chair of the European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI)

Following the Permanent Representatives Committee meeting of 21 February 2024 which endorsed the final compromise text with a view to agreement, delegations are informed that the Presidency sent the attached letter, together with its Annex, to the Chair of the European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI).



Council of
the European Union

SGS 24 / 001065

Brussels, 21 February 2024

Mr Pascal CANFIN

Chair, European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
1047 BRUSSELS

Subject: Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council
amending Directive 2007/2/EC as regards certain reporting requirements for
infrastructures for spatial information

Dear Mr Canfin,

On 14 February 2024, the ENVI Committee of the European Parliament voted amendments to the Commission proposal mentioned under subject. This vote resulted in a text identical to the revised compromise text agreed today by the Permanent Representatives' Committee.

I am therefore now in a position to confirm that, should the European Parliament adopt the amended Commission proposal, in accordance with Article 294 paragraph 3 of the Treaty, in the form set out in the compromise text contained in the Annex to this letter (subject to revision by the legal linguists of both institutions), the Council would, in accordance with Article 294, paragraph 4 of the Treaty, approve the European Parliament's position and the act shall be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the European Parliament's position.

On behalf of the Council I also wish to thank you for your close cooperation which should enable us to reach agreement on this file at first reading.

Yours sincerely,

Pierre CARTUYVELS
Chairman of the Permanent Representatives
Committee (Part 1)

copy to: Virginijus SINKEVICIUS, Commissioner,
Ivan Vilibor SINČIĆ, Rapporteur

Proposal for a

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

**amending Directive 2007/2/EC as regards certain reporting requirements for infrastructures
for spatial information**

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular
Article 192(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions²,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

- (1) Reporting requirements play a key role in ensuring proper monitoring and correct enforcement of legislation. However, it is important to streamline those requirements to ensure that they fulfil the purpose for which they were intended and to limit the administrative burden.

¹ OJ C , , p. .

² OJ C , , p. .

- (2) It is necessary to align the frequency and timing of reporting obligations on the implementation and use of Member States' infrastructures for spatial information with more recent horizontal digital data legislation as to reduce the administrative burden.
- (3) Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council³ lays down general rules aimed at the establishment of the Infrastructure for Spatial Information, for the purposes of Union environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. Article 21(2) of that Directive requires Members State to update, if necessary, and publish a report including, among other things, a summary description of the costs and benefits of implementing that Directive by 31 March of each year.
- (4) Taking into account the results of the Commission report⁴ on Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting and the accompanying Fitness Check of Reporting and Monitoring of Union Environment Policy, Directive 2007/2/EC was amended by Regulation (EU) 2019/1010 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵ to reduce the scope of reporting to the governance for its implementation and the reuse of public spatial data. The evaluation of Directive 2007/2/EC concluded by the Commission in 2022 found that there is scope to make it technically more efficient by means of further administrative burden reduction.
- (5) In order to reduce administrative burdens, it is appropriate to lower the frequency of reporting under Directive 2007/2/EC to once every two years.
- (6) Directive 2007/2/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.

³ Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE) (OJ L 108, 25.4.2007, p. 1).

⁴ COM/2017/0312 final, Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2019/1010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the alignment of reporting obligations in the field of legislation related to the environment, and amending Regulations (EC) No 166/2006 and (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 2002/49/EC, 2004/35/EC, 2007/2/EC, 2009/147/EC and 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 338/97 and (EC) No 2173/2005, and Council Directive 86/278/EEC (OJ L 170, 25.6.2019, p. 115).

- (7) Since the amendment to be made to Directive 2007/2/EC concerns the provision of information to the Commission by Member States, it does not need to be transposed. In this particular situation, it is therefore appropriate to use a decision for such amendment.

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Amendment to Directive 2007/2/EC

In Article 21(2) of Directive 2007/2/EC, the **two introductory sentences** first sentence is **are** replaced by the following:

‘No later than 31 March every two years, starting from 31 March 2025, Member States shall update, if necessary, a summary report. Those reports, which shall be made public by the Commission services, shall include summary descriptions of:’.

Article 2

Entry into Force

This Decision shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 3

Addressees

~~This Decision is addressed to the Member States.~~

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President