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European Union

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Further activities regarding the common form for the declaration of the posting of workers (eDeclaration) <i>Information by the German, Czech and Lithuanian delegations</i>

Delegations will find attached an information note from the German, Czech and Lithuanian delegations on further activities regarding the common form for the declaration of the posting of workers (eDeclaration) with a view to the AOB items at the meeting of the Competitiveness Council on 24 May 2024.

Request by the German, Czech and Lithuanian delegation for an AOB agenda item for the Competitiveness Council on 24 May 2024

Information by the German, the Czech and Lithuanian delegation on the further activities regarding the common form for the declaration of the posting of workers (eDeclaration).

Enterprises have been pointing for years to the demanding bureaucracy entailed by the posting of workers as an impediment in the single market in services. The differing declaration systems with differing information requirements of the 27 Member States pose great challenges for businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises. Transparent and uniform rules for the posting of workers are easier for companies to follow and can thus make a major contribution towards improved compliance with the law and a higher level of employee protection.

In its 2021 Industrial Strategy the European Commission launched a common initiative with Member States to devise a voluntary common form in an electronic format for the declaration of the posting of workers, the so-called eDeclaration. The European Commission set up an Expert Group to develop the common form. At the end of last year interested Member States succeeded to reach an agreement on a common list of information requirements for the eDeclaration. This common list is to be considered as a final and exhaustive maximum list of information requirements for the declaration of the posting of workers which does not affect the control standards and the level of protection of workers.

The eDeclaration will make it significantly easier for companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, to provide cross-border services between different countries while at the same time ensuring a greater transparency and a high level of social security and worker protection. The eDeclaration can thus decisively contribute to reducing unnecessary bureaucracy, in line with the European Commission's goal of reducing the administrative burden of reporting by 25%.

Germany, the Czech Republic and Lithuania wish to express their support for the European Commission's eDeclaration initiative and intend to inform the Council about the latest development in the implementation of the eDeclaration.