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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION authorising the European Commission to participate, on behalf of the European Union, in negotiations on an additional protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198) - Adoption - Statement by Ireland

Delegations will find attached a statement by Ireland for the minutes of Coreper and of the Council.

Buan Ionadaíocht na hÉireann chuig an Aontas Eorpach



Permanent Representation of Ireland to the European Union

12 June 2024

IF Statement on

Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising the European Commission to participate, on behalf of the European Union, in negotiations on an additional protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198)

The draft Council Decision proposes to authorise the European Commission to participate, on behalf of the European Union, in negotiations on an additional protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198)

On 18 April 2024, the Commission published a Recommendation for a Council Decision having regard to Articles 218(3) and (4) TFEU.

At its meeting on 22 May 2024, Coreper approved the addition of Articles 82(1) and (2), Article 83(1) and (2) and Article 87(2) TFEU to the legal basis of the draft Council Decision. The date of the approval by Coreper of this addition marked the commencement of the opt-in period set out in Article 3 of Protocol 21 to the Treaties.

Ireland notes that it is intended that the Council will make a decision less than 3 months after presentation of this proposed decision to the Council in order to facilitate engagement in negotiations in the Council of Europe.

Ireland notes with regret that this will result in Ireland not being afforded its right to have 3 months within which to exercise Ireland's option to notify its wish to participate in the adoption and application of the proposed Council Decision, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of Protocol 21, TFEU.

However, mindful of the importance of the proposed Council Decision, and acknowledging the need to allow its speedy adoption, Ireland has agreed to waive its right to notify its wish to participate in the adoption and application of the proposed Council Decision, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of Protocol 21, TFEU.

This approach is without prejudice to Ireland's underlying position on this matter.