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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
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 - Outcome of the European Parliament's first reading and Corrigendum procedure (Strasbourg, 14 March 2024 and 17 September 2024)

I. INTRODUCTION

A number of informal contacts have taken place between the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission with a view to reaching an agreement on this legislative file at first reading.

This file was expected¹ to undergo the Corrigendum procedure² in the European Parliament after adoption by the outgoing European Parliament of its position at first reading.

¹ 10819/24 + COR 1.

² Rule 251, EP Rules of Procedure.

II. VOTES

At its sitting of 14 March 2024, the European Parliament adopted its first reading position, taking over the Commission proposal (without legal linguistic revision), and a legislative resolution. It reflects what had been provisionally agreed between the Institutions.

After finalisation of the adopted text by the legal linguists, the European Parliament approved on 17 September 2024 a corrigendum to the position adopted at first reading.

With this corrigendum, the Council should be able to approve the position of the European Parliament as set out in the Annex³ hereto, thus bringing to a close the first reading for both Institutions.

The act would then be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the European Parliament's position.

³ The text of the corrigendum is set out in the Annex. It is presented in the form of a consolidated text, where changes to the Commission's proposal are highlighted in bold and italics. The symbol "■" indicates deleted text.

P9_TA(2024)0166

Reporting requirements for infrastructures for spatial information

European Parliament legislative resolution of 14 March 2024 on the 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 (COM(2023)0584 – C9-0385/2023 – 2023/0356(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2023)0584),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 192(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C9-0385/2023),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 13 December 2023¹,
 - after consulting the Committee of the Regions,
 - having regard to the undertaking given by the Council representative by letter of 21 February 2024 to approve Parliament's position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (A9-0037/2024),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

¹ OJ C, C/2024/1586, 05.03.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/1586/oj>.

Position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading on 14 March 2024 with a view to the adoption of Decision (EU) 2024/... 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 Committee⁵,

After consulting the Committee of the Regions,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure⁶,

⁵ OJ C, C/2024/1586, 5.3.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/1586/oj>.

⁶ Position of the European Parliament of 14 March 2024.

Whereas:

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

- (2) Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷ lays down general rules aimed at the establishment of the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE) for the purposes of Union environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment. That Directive requires Member States 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.
- (3) Taking into account the results of the Commission report of 9 June 2017 on Actions to Streamline Environmental Reporting and the accompanying Fitness Check of Reporting and Monitoring of EU Environment Policy, Directive 2007/2/EC was amended by Regulation (EU) 2019/1010 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸ in order to reduce the scope of reporting to the governance for its implementation and the reuse of public spatial data. In its evaluation of Directive 2007/2/EC, that was concluded in 2022, the Commission found that the legal framework could be made more efficient by means of further reducing the administrative burden.

⁷ 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).

⁸ 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).

- (4) In order to reduce the administrative burden of the reporting requirements under Directive 2007/2/EC, it is necessary to align the frequency and timing of reporting on the implementation and use of Member States' infrastructures for spatial information with more recent horizontal digital data legal acts. It is therefore appropriate to lower the frequency of reporting under Directive 2007/2/EC to once every two years.
- (5) Since the amendment to be made to Directive 2007/2/EC concerns the provision of information to the Commission by Member States, there is no obligation for Member States to transpose it. In this particular situation, it is therefore appropriate to use a decision for such an amendment.
- (6) Since the objective of this Decision, namely to streamline the reporting requirements laid down in Directive 2007/2/EC, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States but can rather, by reason of its scale and effects, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective.
- (7) Directive 2007/2/EC should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1
Amendment to Directive 2007/2/EC

In Article 21(2) of Directive 2007/2/EC, the *introductory part is* 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*.

■

Done at ...,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President
