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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
No. Cion doc.:	7238/20
Subject:	Proposal for a DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Decision 2003/17/EC as regards the equivalence of field inspections carried out in Ukraine on cereal seed-producing crops and on the equivalence of cereal seed produced in Ukraine <i>- Mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament</i>

1. On 7 April 2020, the European Commission submitted to the European Parliament and to the Council a proposal for a Decision amending Council Decision 2003/17/EC¹ with the aim of recognising Ukrainian cereal seed as equivalent to seed harvested, produced and controlled within the European Union. The proposal is based on Article 43(2) TFEU. The ordinary legislative procedure is applicable.
2. The European Parliament has designated the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (COMAGRI) as the lead committee, and the Rapporteur is Mr Norbert LINS (EPP, DE). COMAGRI is expected to examine the proposal at its meeting of 20 May 2020.
3. On 17 April 2020, the Council decided to consult the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), in accordance with the provisions of Article 43(2) TFEU. The EESC is expected to adopt an opinion on the proposal at its plenary session of 10 June 2020.

¹ OJ L 8, 14.1.2003, p. 10.

4. The Working Party on Agricultural Questions (Seeds and Propagating Material) (the Working Party) reached an agreement on the text of the proposed Decision through an informal silence procedure, with no objections or amendments from any delegations².
5. The Committee of Permanent Representatives (Part 1) is therefore invited to:
- confirm the agreement reached by the Working Party on the text of the proposed Decision without amendments, as set out in the Addendum 1 to this note; and
 - mandate the Presidency to enter into negotiations with the European Parliament on the basis of the above-mentioned text, with a view to reaching, if possible, a first-reading agreement.
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² WK 4024/2020 INIT + ADD 1.