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'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

Subject: Draft Council Conclusions on enhancing financial investigations to fight serious and organised crime

1. Following two preparatory discussions in the LEWP on 21 January and 11 February 2020, COSI discussed several work strands to enhance financial investigations to counter serious and organised crime at its meeting on 21 February 2020. As a result, it tasked the LEWP with preparing a draft Council Conclusions.
2. The Presidency prepared a first draft and - in the absence of a regular meeting due to the current COVID-19 crisis - collected written comments from LEWP delegations in order to prepare a revised version of the Council Conclusions. This revised version was discussed by COSI during its informal videoconference on 15 May 2020.
3. Based on the results of that discussion and subsequent written comments and further bilateral consultations, the Presidency prepared a final draft Council Conclusions set out in 8605/20. That text should constitute a balanced compromise between all the Member States' respective positions.

4. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited:
- to confirm its agreement on the text of the draft Council Conclusions, as set out in 8605/20, and
 - to decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision 2020/430, that the Council uses the written procedure for its approval.
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