



**Brussels, 22 June 2020
(OR. en)**

8592/20

**POLGEN 66
ENV 330
MI 155
COMPET 261
IND 66
ECOFIN 475
SOC 391
EDUC 246
EMPL 309**

'I' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject: European Semester: integrated country-specific recommendations
– Decision to use the written procedure

1. Under the European Semester 2020, the Commission submitted to the Council on 20 May 2020, for 28 Member States, a Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the National Reform Programme 2020, and delivering a Council Opinion on the updated Stability or Convergence Programme.
2. These recommendations combine economic and employment recommendations, based on Articles 121(2) and 148(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), with Council opinions on stability and convergence programmes, based on Articles 5(2) and 9(2) of Regulation 1466/97, and, in certain cases, with recommendations on the preventive part of the macroeconomic imbalances procedure under Article 6(1) of Regulation 1176/2011.

3. Bearing in mind that recommendations falling within the scope of Article 148(4) TFEU form an integral part of the country-specific recommendations and that their content is inextricably linked to that corresponding to the Stability and Growth pact, the procedure under Article 121(2) TFEU should apply to both parts of the recommendations.
4. The Council approved by written procedure the contribution on the employment and social policy aspects of the draft country-specific recommendations (CM 2618/20) and the contribution on economic/financial and MIP-related aspects of the draft country-specific recommendations (CM 2411/20).
5. In absence of Council meetings and in view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2) is invited:
 - to confirm its agreement on the integrated country-specific recommendations, as set out in document ST 8593/20, 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 2020/702, that the Council uses the written procedure to approve the integrated country-specific recommendations, as set out in document ST 8593/20 including all REV and COR in all languages, and to transmit them to the European Council in accordance with Article 121(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).