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

Subject: Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 as regards its transitional provisions in order to address the impact of COVID-19 crisis **(first reading)**

- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the legislative act
- Decision to derogate from the 8-week period provided for in Article 4 of Protocol 1 on the role of national parliaments in the EU

1. On 2 June 2020 the Commission sent its proposal¹, based on Article 114 TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee adopted its opinion at its plenary session on 10-11 June 2020.
3. The European Parliament will adopt its position at first reading on the Commission proposal at its plenary on 8-10 July 2020.
4. Given the urgency entailed by the exceptional circumstances justifying the proposed measures, it will only be possible to adopt the Regulation by written procedure, within a very short deadline, as the act will be signed on 15 July 2020 and published shortly after.

¹ 8521/20.

5. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited 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 (EU) 2020/702², that the Council uses the written procedure:
- for the adoption of the draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 as regards its transitional provisions in order to address the impact of COVID-19 crisis, as set out in document PE- CONS 21/20³; and
 - to derogate, on the basis of the second subparagraph of Article 3(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, from the eight-week period referred to in the first subparagraph of that Article.
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² Council Decision (EU) 2020/702 of 20 May 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 and extended by Decision (EU) 2020/556 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 165, 27.5.2020, p. 38–39).

³ PE-CONS 21/20 will be available in due time.