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'I' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL laying down temporary measures concerning the time limits for the collection, verification and examination stages provided for in Regulation (EU) 2019/788 on the European citizens' initiative in view of the COVID-19 outbreak (**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 to the TFEU on the role of national parliaments in the EU

1. On 20 May 2020 the Commission sent its proposal¹, based on Article 24 TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Parliament will adopt its position at first reading on the Commission proposal at its plenary on 8-10 July 2020.
3. 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 8120/20 + COR 1.

4. 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 2020/702², that the Council uses the written procedure:
- for the adoption of the draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down temporary measures concerning the time limits for the collection, verification and examination stages provided for in Regulation (EU) 2019/788 on the European citizens' initiative in view of the COVID-19 outbreak, as set out in document PE- CONS 23/20³, 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 23/20 will be available in due time.