



Brussels, 28 August 2020
(OR. en)

10308/20

FIN 556
INST 177

'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	Budget Committee
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	Transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2020 within Section VI - European Economic and Social Committee - of the general budget for 2020

1. On 31 July 2020, the European Economic and Social Committee submitted to the Council proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2020.

The purpose of this proposal is to transfer a total amount of EUR 5.5 million from Articles 1 6 2 (*Missions*) and 2 1 4 (*Technical equipment and installations*), and Items 1 0 0 4 (*Travel and subsistence allowances, attendance at meetings and associated expenditure*), 1 0 0 8 (*Travel and subsistence allowances, attendance at meetings and associated expenditure of delegates of the Consultative Commission on Industrial Change*), 1 2 0 0 (*Remuneration and allowances*), 1 2 2 0 (*Allowances for staff retired or placed on leave in the interests of the service*), 1 4 0 4 (*Graduate traineeships, grants and exchanges of officials*), 1 4 2 0 (*Supplementary services for the translation service*), 1 4 2 2 (*Expert advice connected with legislative work*), 1 6 1 2 (*Further training*), 1 6 3 8 (*Early childhood centre and approved day nurseries*), 2 5 4 2 (*Expenditure on the organisation of and participation in hearings and other events*), 2 5 4 6 (*Representation expenses*) and 2 5 4 8 (*Interpreting*) to Items 2 0 0 0 (*Rent*) and 2 0 0 1 (*Annual lease payments and similar expenditure*).

2. The aim of this exceptional budgetary request for a transfer is to pre-finance part of the 2021 and/or subsequent years' rent and lease payments on the joint EESC-CoR buildings in Brussels using the budget 2020, and thus free up appropriations, which could in turn be transferred to other Items such as 2 0 0 7 (*Fitting-out of premises*) and 2 0 0 8 (*Other expenditure on buildings*) to cater for the refurbishment of the VMA building, with a view to preparing it for the takeover by the two Committees in 2022.
3. The Budget Committee examined this proposal for a transfer at its meeting on 28 August 2020.
4. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:
 - confirm its agreement on the proposed transfer of appropriations; and
 - decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision 2020/430¹, that the Council uses the written procedure for its approval.

The General Secretariat of the Council will inform the European Economic and Social Committee, as well as the European Parliament of the Council's decision.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2020/430 of 23 March 2020 on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 88 I, 24.3.2020, p. 1).