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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	8344/20 8345/20
Subject:	Joint statement on the dates for the budgetary procedure and modalities for the functioning of the Conciliation Committee in 2020

1. The Interinstitutional Agreement on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management¹ stipulates under point 2 of its annex on interinstitutional cooperation during the budgetary procedure that a trilogue shall be organised in due time before the adoption of the draft budget by the Commission ("spring trilogue"). Its purpose is to discuss possible priorities for the budget of the coming financial year and to adopt an indicative calendar and modalities for the functioning of the Conciliation Committee for the upcoming budgetary procedure.
2. Given the exceptional circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission proposed not to convene the spring trilogue and to endorse the institutions' joint statement on the indicative calendar by an exchange of letters.

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management (OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1).

3. Following this exchange of letters, an agreement *ad referendum* was reached between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the draft joint statement. On 5 June 2020, the Council agreed on the draft joint statement set out in document 8345/20.
4. Based on the jointly decision by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission to postpone the budgetary trilogue initially scheduled on 16 July 2020 due to the need to adjust the calendar of the annual budget 2021 with the MFF 2021-27 negotiations, the Commission proposed a revised draft joint statement for this year's budgetary procedure.
5. Following discussions between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission at the trilogue on 22 September 2020, an agreement *ad referendum* was reached between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the revised draft joint statement.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to advise the Council to confirm its agreement on the draft joint statement set out in document 11077/2020.