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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
Subject:	Council Conclusions on Strenghtening Minimum Income Protection to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion in the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond

Delegations will find attached statements from Poland and Slovakia

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Statement from Poland

Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Poland ensures equality between women and men within the framework of the Polish national legal system in accordance with internationally binding human rights instruments and within the framework of fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, in place where the conclusions refer to gender equality Poland will interpret it as a equality between women and men, according to Article 8 TFEU.

Statement from Slovakia

The Slovak Republic recognizes and promotes equality between men and women in accordance with the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, primary law, principles and values of the European Union, as well as commitments and principles stemming from the international law. In line with these and its national legislation, the Slovak Republic interprets the concept of "gender" in the text of the Council Conclusions as reference to sex and concept of "gender equality" as reference to the equality between men and women.

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