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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council

Subject: Draft Council conclusions on the Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2021
- Approval
- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption

1. On 17 September 2020, the Commission published the Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2021 (ASGS), setting the start of the 2021 exercise of the European Semester.
2. Every year, the Council reflect in Council conclusions its views on the challenges and priorities set for the EU in the ASGS.
3. The draft Council conclusions on ASGS 2021 were discussed and agreed at the Economic and Financial Committee's (EFC) on 23 October 2020.
4. The Council Presidency therefore is of the view that it is appropriate to submit these draft conclusions for the approval by the Council.

5. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited:
- to confirm its agreement on the text of the draft Council conclusions on the ASGS 2021, as set out in document ST 12263/20;
 - to recommend that the Council approve the abovementioned conclusions, as set out in document ST 12263/20, as an 'A' item on the agenda of a forthcoming Council meeting;
 - at the same time 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) 2020/430, as extended by Council Decision (EU) 2020/1253 of 4 September 2020, that the Council use the written procedure for the adoption of the abovementioned Council conclusions, if, due to the circumstances related to COVID-19, there were no formal Council meetings until 15 November 2020.
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