



Brussels, 17 December 2020  
(OR. en)

14134/20

RECH 528  
RELEX 1018  
ENV 814  
SUSTDEV 181

#### 'I' ITEM NOTE

---

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

---

Subject: Council approval for the opening of negotiations between the Commission and the participants of the Arctic Science Ministerial on a Joint Statement on collaborative science efforts in the Arctic.

- Approval of entering into negotiations
- Decision to use the written procedure

---

1. On 14 December 2020, the Working Party on Research received information from the Commission on its intention to enter into negotiations on a non-binding Joint Statement on collaborative science efforts in the Arctic<sup>1</sup>.
2. It is expected that the Joint Statement will stress concern over warming in the Arctic region and its regional and planetary impacts. The Joint Statement is expected to present joint policy commitments under four priority themes:
  - Observe - Observing networks; Data sharing –towards implementation;
  - Understand - Enhance understanding and prediction capability on Arctic environmental and social systems and its global impact;

---

<sup>1</sup> WK 14293/2020

- Respond - Sustainable development; Evaluation of vulnerability and resilience; Application of knowledge;
  - Strengthen - Capacity building; Education; Networking; Resilience –prepare the next generation.
3. It is understood that the Commission will revert to the Council at the end of the negotiations to seek approval by the Council for signing up to that non-binding Joint Statement.
4. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited:
- to confirm its approval for the Commission to enter into negotiations on a Joint Statement on collaborative science efforts in the Arctic, and
  - 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 2020/1659, that the Council uses the written procedure for the approval to enter into negotiations.
-