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'I' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: Draft DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Decision 2008/971/EC as regards the equivalence of forest reproductive material produced in the United Kingdom to such material produced in the Union **(first reading)**
- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the legislative act

1. On 23 December 2020 the Commission sent its proposal¹, based on Article 43(2) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 27 January 2021².
3. The European Parliament will adopt its position at first reading on the Commission proposal at its plenary on 8-11 March 2021.

¹ Doc. 5005/21.

² Not yet published in the OJ.

4. Due to the special circumstances, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited 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 (EU) 2021/26³, that the Council uses the written procedure for the adoption of the draft Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2008/971/EC as regards the equivalence of forest reproductive material produced in the United Kingdom to such material produced in the Union, as set out in document PE- CONS 3/21⁴.
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³ Council Decision (EU) 2021/26 of 12 January 2021 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556, (EU) 2020/702, (EU) 2020/970, (EU) 2020/1253 and (EU) 2020/1659, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 11, 14.1.2021, p. 19–20).

⁴ PE-CONS 3/21 will be available in due time.