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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 (first reading) - Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons = Statement by the Commission

Commission's statement on the contribution of the LIFE programme to the biodiversity ambition

In line with the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources (2018/2070(ACI)), the Commission will set out, in cooperation with the Council and the Parliament, an effective, transparent and comprehensive methodology for tracking biodiversity expenditures in view of working towards the ambition of providing 7.5% of annual spending under the MFF to biodiversity objectives in the year 2024 and 10% of annual spending under the MFF to biodiversity objectives in 2026 and 2027.

Following the definition of this methodology, the Commission will present by 31 July 2022 to the European Parliament and the Council the contributions of the LIFE Regulation to the biodiversity ambition. The spending of the LIFE Programme on biodiversity objectives will be reported annually in the programme statements of operational expenditures. Its contribution to the conservation status of habitats and species will be analysed in the context of the mid-term evaluation foreseen in 2024 and referred to in Article 19 of the LIFE Regulation.
