



Brussels, 19 May 2021
(OR. en)

8709/21

SAN 287
PHARM 84
COVID-19 199
PROCIV 52

'A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the seventy-fourth session of the World Health Assembly
- Adoption

1. On 4 May 2021, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the seventy-fourth session of the World Health Assembly.¹ The World Health Assembly will take place from 24 May to 1 June 2021.
2. The proposal provides for the support of the establishment of a World Health Organization process for a new framework Convention on Pandemic Preparedness and Response and to allow the participation of the Union in the negotiating process.
3. The Members of the European Council, at its meeting on 25-26 February 2021, reiterated their commitment to 'advancing global health security, including by strengthening the World Health Organization and working towards an international treaty on pandemics within its framework'.

¹ ST 8402/21

4. The Working Party on Public Health on 6 May 2021 examined the proposal. On the basis of the comments by delegations and further consultations, the proposal has been amended by the Presidency.
 5. On 19 May 2021, the Permanent Representatives Committee examined the text of the Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the seventy-fourth session of the World Health Assembly as revised by the Presidency and reached an agreement on it.
 6. **Consequently, the Council is invited to adopt the Council Decision set out in document 8564/21.**
-