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

Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE
COUNCIL establishing the Just Transition Fund (**first reading**)
- Adoption of the legislative act
= Statements

Statement by Bulgaria

The Republic of Bulgaria understands the reporting on common indicators in Annexes I and II of the European Social Fund Plus Regulation and in Annex III of the Just Transition Fund Regulation by using a category of “non-binary”, as not obligatory. The Republic of Bulgaria does not intend to gather and report relevant data, as such a category does not exist in its national legislation.

Statement by Hungary

The procedure towards the adoption of the Cohesion Policy regulations has reached another important step. Hungary sees it necessary to reiterate its earlier statement regarding the representation and interpretation of gender in these regulations.

Equality between women and men is enshrined in the treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Hungary ensures equality between women and men within the framework of its national legal system in accordance with internationally binding human rights instruments and within the framework of fundamental values and principles of the European Union.

For these reasons Hungary interprets the concept of “gender“ as reference to sex, in line with Article 8, 10, 19 and 157 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 21 and 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

Furthermore Hungary is convinced that the content of gender is not appropriate to be defined in these legislative documents.

In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets the concept of ‘gender’ as reference to ‘sex’ and the concept of ‘gender equality’ as reference to the ‘equality between men and women’ in the Regulations. As regards the breakdown of data, Hungary believes that footnote 2 in Annex III of JTF Regulation (and also the first line of Annex I and Annex II respectively of the ESF+ Regulation) should be applied and refer to the term “gender” and the parenthesis as a whole and not only one of the subcategories listed there.

Bearing in mind the fact that determining the content of the term “gender” falls under the exclusive competence of the Member States, the relevant recitals, articles, annexes and footnotes should be understood as referring to the term gender interpreted in accordance with national legislation.

Statement by Poland

Equality between women and men is enshrined in the treaties of the European Union as a fundamental right. Poland ensures equality between women and men within the framework of the Polish national legal system in accordance with internationally binding human rights instruments and within the framework of fundamental values and principles of the European Union. For these reasons, in wordings referring to gender Poland will interpret it as a equality between women and men, according to Article 8 TFEU.
