



**Brussels, 24 June 2021
(OR. en)**

10153/21

**INST 242
CMPT 7**

INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Partial renewal of the European Court of Auditors (second half of 2022)
- Approval of a letter

1. By letter of 17 June 2021¹, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) informed the Council of the end of the term of office of three Members of the ECA in the second half of 2022:
 - 30 September 2022: Mr Leo BRINCAT (Malta)
 - 1 November 2022: Mr Lazaros S. LAZAROU (Cyprus)
 - 31 December 2022: Mr Juhan PARTS (Estonia).

¹ 10082/21.

2. Article 286(1) and (2), first subparagraph, TFEU states that:

"1. The Members of the Court of Auditors shall be chosen from among persons who belong or have belonged in their respective States to external audit bodies or who are especially qualified for this office. Their independence must be beyond doubt.

2. The Members of the Court of Auditors shall be appointed for a term of six years. The Council, after consulting the European Parliament, shall adopt the list of Members drawn up in accordance with the proposals made by each Member State. The term of office of the Members of the Court of Auditors shall be renewable".

3. In order to ensure the continuity of ECA's work, the new Members of the ECA should be appointed before the end of July 2022.

4. Member States concerned should therefore send their proposals to the General Secretariat of the Council no later than **31 January 2022**. To that effect the General Secretariat of the Council will send a letter to the Member States concerned.

5. Delegations will find a draft reply to the letter from the Secretary-General of the European Court of Auditors in the Annex to this note. This draft reply is to be submitted, following its examination by the Working Party on General Affairs, to the Permanent Representatives Committee, with a view to its approval in accordance with Article 19(7) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

Draft reply

From: Council of the European Union

To: Secretary-General of the European Court of Auditors

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 17 June 2021 concerning three Members of the European Court of Auditors (ECA) whose terms of office will expire in the second half of 2022, I have the pleasure to inform you that the General Secretariat of the Council will ask the Member States concerned to put forward their nominations for Members of the ECA no later than 31 January 2022.

In order to ensure the continuity of ECA's work, the Council Decision appointing the Members of the Court should be adopted before the end of July 2022. To that end, the procedure for the appointment of the Members should start sufficiently early to allow for the timely consultation of the European Parliament.

(Complimentary close)

Chair of the
Permanent Representatives Committee