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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: Draft Council conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 08/2021 "Frontex's support to external border management: not sufficiently effective to date"
- Approval

1. On 7 June 2021, the General Secretariat of the Council received the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 08/2021 "Frontex's support to external border management: not sufficiently effective to date"¹.
2. Pursuant to the rules laid down in the Council conclusions on improving the examination of special reports drawn up by the Court of Auditors², the Permanent Representatives Committee, at its meeting on 2021, instructed the Working Party on Frontiers to examine the report³ according to the rules laid down in the above-mentioned conclusions.
3. The report was presented to the Working Party on Frontiers at its meeting on 13 July 2021. At its meeting on 9 September 2021, the Working Party held an exchange of views on the report and on draft Council conclusions which had been prepared by the Presidency. Building on the discussions held at this occasion as well as on comments received afterwards in writing, the Presidency prepared a revised text, as set out in Annex to this note, on which delegations could agree in principle.

¹ OJ C 219, 9.6.2021, p. 8.

² Doc. 7515/00 + COR 1.

³ Doc. 9988/21.

4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to confirm the agreement on the draft Council conclusions as set out in the Annex to this note and to submit them to the Council for approval as an 'A' item on the agenda of one of its next meetings.
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DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 08/2021 "Frontex's support to external border management: not sufficiently effective to date"

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:

1. THANKS the European Court of Auditors for the Special Report No 08/2021 "Frontex's support to external border management: not sufficiently effective to date";
2. TAKES GOOD NOTE of the conclusions and recommendations in the Special Report, which include Frontex activities in the period from end of 2016 to February 2020.
3. CONSIDERS the Special Report a useful contribution to reflections of Frontex and the Commission on how to improve the efficiency of Frontex's support to external border management, as it focusses on the mandate regarding to the Regulation (EU) 2016/1624;
4. RECOGNISES in particular the importance of :
 - improving the information exchange framework and the European situational picture;
 - updating and implementing the common integrated risk analysis model and secure access to other sources of information;
 - developing the potential of the vulnerability assessment;
 - improving Frontex's operational response; and
 - addressing the challenges posed by Frontex's new mandate.
5. INVITES the European Court of Auditors to keep the Council informed of future audit reports on the same issue