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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject: European Council meeting (16 and 17 December 2021)
– Annotated draft agenda

In accordance with Article 3(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the European Council, the President of the European Council, in close cooperation with the member of the European Council representing the Member State holding the six-monthly Presidency of the Council and with the President of the Commission, is to submit an annotated draft agenda to the General Affairs Council.

Delegations will find attached the annotated draft agenda submitted by the President of the European Council, setting out the main items the European Council is expected to address at the above meeting.

In the light of the final discussion to be held by the General Affairs Council within the five days preceding the European Council meeting, the President of the European Council is to draw up the provisional agenda.

I. COVID-19

The European Council will address the epidemiological and vaccine situation and pursue coordination and preparedness efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will also revert to international cooperation on global health governance and solidarity.

II. CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE

Following its discussion in June, the European Council will take stock of work to enhance our collective preparedness, response capability and resilience to future crises and to protect the functioning of the internal market.

III. ENERGY PRICES

The European Council will revert to recent developments in energy prices, in light of preliminary reports prepared by ACER and ESMA, of the upcoming Commission proposals, and of work in the Council.

IV. SECURITY AND DEFENCE

The European Council will provide guidance on the draft Strategic Compass and EU-NATO cooperation.

V. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The European Council will prepare the upcoming European Union Summit - African Union.

In the light of events, the European Council may address other specific foreign policy issues.

p.m.: migration/Belarus border