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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

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Subject: Proposal for the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection
= Political agreement
– *Joint statement by Malta and Slovakia*

Delegations will find attached the above-mentioned statement which will be annexed to the Council minutes.

Joint statement by Malta and Slovakia to the minutes of AGRIFISH Council on 27 January 2020, on the Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on statistics on migration and international protection

Reference is being made to Item 18 on the COREPER II Agenda of 15 January 2020, on the Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on statistics on migration and international protection.

Malta and Slovakia would like to submit another joint declaration on this item to be entered in the minutes of COREPER II and the Council:

We acknowledge the efforts of the Presidency to reach a compromise with the European Parliament on the draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection.

However, we cannot accept the compromise as stated in document 15244/1/19.

Our concerns on this draft regulation, as already expressed during several Council Working Parties on Statistics, and during the COREPER meetings of 20 November 2019 and 4 December 2019, and also through the silence procedure that was launched, have not been addressed. The lack of real and relevant justification for the additional data and their added value for policy making persists, and the double-reporting problem has not been adequately catered for but left unclear. Furthermore, the change to recital 11, wherein requesting the prioritization of the inclusion of data requirements in the legal architecture of the regulation, has exacerbated our problem on the process since this is enabling the circumvention of an appropriate impact assessment vis-à-vis their policy-needs and creating unsubstantiated high resource and administrative constraints for Member States.