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NOTE

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

Subject: *Preparation of the Competitiveness Council (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space) on 22 May 2025*
Single Market Strategy
- *Presentation by the Commission*

Delegations will find attached a Presidency background note entitled “Single Market Strategy” with a view to a presentation by the Commission at the Competitiveness Council on 22 May 2025.

DISCUSSION PAPER
Meeting of the Competitiveness Council
Brussels, 22 May 2025
Single Market Strategy

With the planned adoption scheduled for 21 May, the Commission will present the Single Market Strategy in the form of a Communication which will include a concrete action plan and timeline. The Strategy will aim to identify and remove existing regulatory and administrative barriers while preventing the emergence of new ones.

It will set out a comprehensive and forward-looking vision for the Single Market, complementing sector-specific initiatives.

The Strategy will focus on facilitating the cross-border provision of services and movement of goods, while enhancing horizontal Single Market governance. Key areas of action will include the digitalisation of processes and the reinforcement and acceleration of the enforcement of Single Market rules.

The announced strategy will also be a response to the Leaders' call of April 2024 to develop a new horizontal strategy for a modernised Single Market by the end of June 2025 as well as the response to the Competitiveness Council conclusions from 24 May 2024, calling the Commission to adopt a new horizontal Strategy for a modernised Single Market by June 2025 with the aim to reduce fragmentation and complete the Single Market across policy areas, including a roadmap with clear timelines and milestones for urgent and concrete actions across all policy areas, with a view to creating an area without internal borders in which the free movement of goods, persons, services and capital is ensured for the benefit of all.

In this context, we invite the Member States to engage in a first exchange of views on the Strategy, to ensure a shared understanding of priorities.