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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the acceleration of permit-granting for defence readiness projects (first reading) - Adoption of the legislative act = Statement

Austria has requested that the following statement be entered in the Council minutes

Austria supports the fundamental objective of accelerating permit-granting processes for defence readiness projects, improving the framework conditions for defence-related projects in the European Union, and facilitating the implementation of relevant investments.

Against the backdrop of current geopolitical developments and the changing security situation in Europe, it is important that Member States have the appropriate tools to strengthen the resilience and performance of the European defence technological and industrial base.

In particular, Austria supports measures to improve administrative coordination for defence-related projects. The planned establishment of single points of contact for project promoters, as well as the promotion of digital processes, can contribute to greater transparency and better predictability, and to a more efficient handling of permit-granting processes.

In these respects, Austria is in favour of the general approach and the objectives of the proposal. At the same time, there remain unresolved questions and constitutional concerns regarding individual elements of the procedural setup. Austria therefore abstains.
