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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens, mutagens or reprotoxic substances at work (first reading) - Adoption of the legislative act

1. On 18 July 2025 the Commission submitted its proposal¹, based on Article 153(2), point (b), in conjunction with Article 153(1), point (a) TFEU, to the Council.
2. The European Economic and Social Committee delivered its opinion on 23 October 2025².
3. The Committee of the Regions was consulted and decided not to issue an opinion.
4. On 6 October 2026 the European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on the Commission proposal³. The outcome of voting in the European Parliament reflects the compromise agreement reached between the institutions and should, therefore, be acceptable to the Council.

¹ 11823/25 + ADD 1 to 5.

² OJ C, C/2026/73, 30.1.2026, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2026/73/oj>.

³ 13631/26.

5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore asked to confirm its agreement and to suggest that the Council approve the European Parliament's position, as set out in PE-CONS 54/26, as an "A" item at a forthcoming meeting, with Germany voting against and Belgium and Poland abstaining.
6. The statement for the minutes of the Council meeting is set out in the Addendum to this note.
7. If the Council approves the European Parliament's position, the legislative act will be adopted.

After being signed by the Presidents of the European Parliament and of the Council, the legislative act will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
