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8174/23

LIMITE

TTC 8
TELECOM 95
RECH 130
POLCOM 62
COASI 75
ASIE 33

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2) / Council
Subject: Joint statement with India in the framework of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council
- Authorisation to negotiate a non-binding instrument

1. On 6 February 2023, the Council approved the Joint Statement on the establishment of the EU-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC) and the accompanying Terms of Reference¹. The EU-India TTC was set up on the same day.
2. On 5 April 2023, the European Commission informed the Permanent Representatives Committee of the intention to enter negotiations on a non-binding instrument in the form of a Joint Statement with India in the framework of the EU-India TTC². This Joint Statement could be approved at the first ministerial level meeting of the EU-India TTC which is scheduled to take place on 15-16 May 2023.

¹ ST 5510/23

² ST 8173/23

3. The intention is to use this Joint Statement, among other things, to reaffirm the political commitment of the EU and India to the TTC; to underline the importance of a strong EU-India partnership in addressing strategic challenges related to trade, trusted technology and security; and to establish work plans and provide guidance to the three Working Groups established under the EU-India TTC³.
4. The European Commission will regularly inform the Permanent Representatives Committee as well as the relevant committees and working parties of the progress made in the negotiations on a Joint Statement.
5. It is understood that the Commission will revert to the Council at the end of the negotiations to obtain, in accordance with Union law, an authorisation from the Council for the approval, on behalf of the Union, of a non-binding instrument in the form of a Joint Statement that should result from the negotiations.
6. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:
 - confirm its agreement for the European Commission to enter negotiations on a Joint Statement with India in the framework of the EU-India TTC; and
 - invite the Council to approve as an ‘A’ item at a forthcoming meeting the launch of negotiations on a Joint Statement with India in the framework of the EU-India TTC.

³ ST 8132/23