Main Points:
Representatives of the associations of municipalities expressed their concern over the disproportionate administrative burden that would be caused by the fact that as a result of the CJEU Visser judgement on the scope of the Services Directive and that no agreement had to date been found on the legislative proposal for a revised notifications procedure (and certain exemptions from the notification obligations foreseen therein), municipalities must notify to the Commission certain requirements contained in spatial and urban plans. They would like to avoid such notifications and the administrative burden this would cause.

The Commission explained that it shared concerns over disproportionate administrative burden. In the absence of the adoption of the legislative proposal, the Commission like Member States is legally bound by the existing legislation and its interpretation by the CJEU. It hopes that an agreement on the proposal with a reasonable exemption from the notification obligation for certain requirements contained in spatial and urban plans can be found as soon as possible.

The Commission moreover explained the rational for the legislative proposal for a revised notifications procedure and notably its ex-ante notification obligation (exchange of best practices and comments when these can still be taken into account prior to the adoption of a measure), the urgency clause (to avoid MS
are prevented from adopting urgent measures fast) and the consultation process (runs in parallel to domestic law-making procedures which it does not stop).