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LIMITE

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| PESC | 130 |
| COARM | 10 |
| COMER | 59 |
| ECO | 164 |
| UD | 61 |
| ATO | 60 |

NOTE

from : Secretariat

to : Committee of Permanent Representatives

prev. docs : 5645/98, 6046/98, 6112/98, 7081/98, 7255/98,
7717/98, 8163/98, 8181/98, 8243/98

Subject : EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON ARMS EXPORTS

1. The Presidency tabled at the end of January a proposal for a "Code of Conduct on Arms Exports" (doc 5645/98).
 2. The Working Group on Conventional Arms Exports started on 17 February to examine this proposal. Elements presented by the Italian delegation (doc. 6046/98) as a complement to the initial Presidency proposal have since been incorporated in the Presidency proposal.
 3. All delegations generally welcomed and some expressed strong support for the Presidency initiative and shared the objective of setting high common standards for arms exports.
 4. On the basis of discussions at several meetings of the Working Group on Conventional Arms Exports, a fourth revised draft was submitted by the Presidency to the Political Committee at its meeting of 12 May. The Political Committee examined the draft; discussion allowed for a better identification of the questions to be decided.
 5. On the basis of further comments, the Presidency is submitting to Coreper a new revised draft with a view to the next session of the General Affairs Council (see doc. 8243/98).
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