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From: Presidency

To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)

No. prev. doc.: 17773/12
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Subject: Draft Arrangement between the European Parliament, the Council and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy concerning access by the European Parliament to classified information held by the Council and the European External Action Service in the area of the common foreign and security policy

– Progress report

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (13.05.2024)

1. The Working Party on General Affairs discussed the way forward regarding the Draft Arrangement between the European Parliament, the Council and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy concerning access by the European Parliament to classified information held by the Council and the European External Action Service in the area of the common foreign and security policy (new EUCI CFSP Arrangement) at its meetings of 28 September, 12 October, 9 November, 30 November and 7 December.

2. The negotiations on the new EUCI CFSP Arrangement, aiming to update the 2002 IIA in the light of the post-Lisbon institutional set-up, have been put on hold since 2013, pending the entry into force of the IIA on the forwarding to and handling by the EP of classified information in the areas other than the common foreign and security policy (hereafter non-CFSP IIA), which occurred in 2014, and the gathering of sufficient practical experience with its functioning. The Presidency's aim was to examine the prospects for a resumption of talks,¹ on the basis of existing mandate from 2012². The EEAS as well as GSC Security of Information Services have been fully involved in the preparation and conduct of these discussions.
3. The working party examined the practical experience gained with the implementation of the non-CFSP IIA and the current practice of granting to the European Parliament access to CFSP classified information under the 2002 IIA as well as the use of Article 295 as the legal basis³.

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¹ 11496/18

² 17773/12

³ 14876/18