

Brussels, 11 December 2015  
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PE 189  
INST 441  
JUR 787  
FREMP 299

**"I" ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)

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Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament on the detailed provisions governing the exercise of the European Parliament's right of inquiry replacing the Decision of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 19 April 1995 (95/167/EC, Euratom, ECSC)  
– Approval of a letter

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1. On 30 November 2015, the Council received a letter from Ms HÜBNER, Chair of the AFCCO Committee in the European Parliament, transmitting to the Council a second working document relating to the above file. The EP letter was issued as document 14803/15.
2. On 11 December 2015, the Working Group on General Affairs discussed and approved a draft reply to Ms HÜBNER's letter.
3. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee approve the letter as set out in the Annex to this note, in accordance with the Council's rules of procedure (Article 19(7)(k)).

Dear Ms Hübner,

**EP right of inquiry - second working document**

Thank you for your letter dated 30 November 2015, in which you transmitted to the Council Mr Jáuregui Atondo's second working document, as endorsed by the AFCO committee on 19 November 2015.

The Council has taken note of Mr Jáuregui Atondo's working document and welcomes the Parliament's commitment to address the Council's legal and institutional concerns. It also welcomes the inclusion, in the rapporteur's new mandate, of a reference to the Council's letter dated 3 September 2015. By means of that letter, the Council set out many of the issues it considers to be profoundly problematic with regard to the EP proposal. The Council is unanimous in its view that these issues are indeed of such gravity that they fall outside the scope of any negotiation.

The Council reiterates its willingness to work constructively with the Parliament and, as indicated previously, looks forward to hearing how the Parliament plans to address its concerns. In that light, the Presidency would be happy to have a technical meeting with the rapporteur and the Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Braun

Chairman

Committee of Permanent Representatives

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