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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of
invasive alien species(**first reading**)
- Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)
= Statements

Statement by Hungary

The list of species of Union concern also determines the fundamental obligations linked to their management, so it is crucial that the list be transparent and predictable, and established through a procedure which fully complies with all the requirements laid down in the Regulation.

In accordance with article 4 (6) and the related recital 12, Hungary highlights that due consideration must be given to the social and economic aspects, and to the implementation costs for the Member States. In this regard special attention should be given to species – such as false acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) - that are widely used and provide significant socio-economic benefits for a Member State.

Based on the above, Hungary's position regarding false acacia is that this species is not to be included in the Union list and its management should be maintained under the scope of national legislation.

Statement by Romania

Romania considers that the final text of the regulation *on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species* is not fully in line with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, in particular as regards the invasive alien species of regional concern.

Romania supports the role of the European Commission as facilitator for cooperation and coordination. It considers nevertheless that the adoption of an implementing act in this context is conflicting with the subsidiarity principle and the voluntary nature of the cooperation among Member States.

Moreover, Romania considers that taking measures to avoid the spread of native species is disproportionate, in particular where these species are not problematic for the country of origin, being naturally integrated and controlled within the ecosystems.

Therefore, Romania cannot support the final text of the regulation and abstains from its adoption.

Statement by Denmark and Finland

Denmark and Finland welcome the regulation on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species.

In relation to the list of invasive alien species of Union concern to be adopted by the Commission in accordance with Article 4, Denmark and Finland note that socio-economic impacts will be an integral part of the analysis and procedure on the basis of which species will be listed and that according to Article 4(6) and related recital 12 due consideration should be given to the implementation cost for the Member States and that special attention in this regard should be given to species - such as the American Mink - that are widely used and provides significant socio-economic benefits in a Member State.

In this context and in light of the assurances given during the negotiations of the regulation, Denmark and Finland are confident that the American Mink will not be included in the list.
