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| From:    | Presidency   |
| To:      | Working Party on Technical Harmonisation (Construction Products) |
| Subject: | Outcome of proceedings of the WP meeting of 3 July 2019          |

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## Outcome of proceedings

### 1. Approval of the agenda

The President welcomed all participants and drew their attention to the agenda in document CM 3305/1/19 REV 1. The meeting begun with a video regarding to sustainability of the Finnish presidency explaining why there were no gifts. Instead of gifts Finland will offset emissions form air travel during its Presidency of the Council of the EU. This is the first time a country holding the Presidency will offset emissions on behalf of meeting participants from other countries.

### 2. Circular economy of Construction Products

The Member States discussed circular economy of construction products on the basis of seven questions in the document 10556/19. Circular economy of construction products is seen as an important issue that should be tackled at the EU level, main focus being in removing obstacles. Voluntary basis for re-use of construction products was welcomed by several delegations. Safety of construction products should not be compromised for benefits in environmental aspects. The question of how to determine the change of performance of a construction product would need resolving. The Construction Products Regulation (EU) No. 305/2011 (CPR) could offer means for providing information concerning environmental impact assessment and life cycle approach.

The Member States were invited to send their written contributions by the 12<sup>th</sup> of August.

### 3. Information by the Commission

The Commission informed the delegations about the situation regarding the revision of the Construction Products Regulation. The preparatory work for a possible revision of the CRP is ongoing pending the agreement to proceed from the next Commission. The Commission has published a call for tenders on an Impact Assessment (IA) study and expects that the contract would be signed in September. The IA study will include a wide consultation with stakeholders to gather their opinions on how to improve the functioning of the internal market for construction product

The Commission presented their initial “green field” thinking on the proposal to follow the Construction 2020 Strategy, the current Commission policy for the construction sector. The initial thoughts are substantial changes into more holistic view of the Built Environment integrating competitiveness, digitalization, skills, innovation and environmental sustainability under a life cycle approach to construction.

### 4. Any other business

The President gave information about the Informal Meeting which will take place in Helsinki in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of September. The number of participant per delegation of a Member State is limited to two due to a limited number of seats in the venue. During the first day of the meeting the agenda will include discussions of circular economy of construction products and overlapping legislation with the Construction Products Regulation such as Eco-design Directive, Drinking Water Directive and Waste Directive. Also representatives of the associations of the industry will be invited for the first day of the program. On the first day there is also going to be an evening program with a boat trip, walking tour and a dinner. The program of the second day will include discussions of the parameters and questions to be decided upon in a CPR revision.

The Member States were invited to send the contact information of participants of Informal Meeting to [jenni.hakala@formin.fi](mailto:jenni.hakala@formin.fi) in order to receive invitation in the beginning of the week 28. Participating Member

States shall cover their travel and accommodation expenses. The Finnish Presidency will offer the boat trip and dinner in the destination.