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Chair
European Scrutiny Committee
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

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5 September 2017

Dear Chair

Update on: 12252/16 - proposals for a revised European Electronic Communications Code (EECC) (recast) and 12257/16; general approach and trilogue mandate sought at COREPER meeting (11 October)

In October 2016, I submitted the explanatory memoranda (EMs) referenced above and committed to keeping your Committee updated as negotiations progressed. Since then, I have provided updates to your Committee in February and April, and most recently in August. The latter correspondence included updates on the 9 June Telecoms Council and the 17-18 July Informal Telecoms Council, which took place in Tallinn, as well as on our general progress in EECC negotiations.

As explained in my letter of 21 August, the Estonian Presidency intends to progress discussions on the EECC at pace. I am writing to notify you of my officials' understanding that the Presidency intends to use the COREPER I meeting on 11 October to agree a general approach and to attempt to secure a mandate for EECC trilogue negotiations.

Council Working Group discussions on the EECC start again on 5 September and as such there have been no other developments since my letter of 21 August.

I am copying this letter to Lord Boswell, Chair of the House of Lords European Union Committee, Chris Johnson, Clerk to the Lords Committee; Eve Samson, Committee Clerk; Les Saunders at the Department for Exiting the European Union; and Charlotte Brennan at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

Yours ever

THE RT HON MATT HANCOCK MP

