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Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO): Extracts from the press conference by the Cypriot Presidency and the European Commission

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Ministers were expected to agree a partial general approach on aligning the existing implementing powers enshrined in the four so-called breakfast-directives with the new rules on delegated acts as set out in the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. The Council has taken stock of progress made on a draft decision aimed at strengthening EU capacities and structures for effectively responding to serious cross-border health threats. The Council was also due to adopt conclusions on: · organ donation and transplantation; · healthy ageing across the lifecycle. During lunch, ministers will had a discussion on the implementation of the joint action plan on medical devices following the PIP crisis.

Only the original language version is authentic and it prevails in the event of its differing from the translated versions.

TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Arrival of the speakers	00:00:07
00:00:12	Cutaway of the speakers	00:00:05
00:00:17	SOUNDBITE by Androula Agroti, Cypriot Minister for Health and President in office of the Council (In Greek) saying that: The Council approved draft Council conclusions on organ donation and transplantation and council conclusions on healthy aging across the life cycle and then, under AOB, the Council received information from the Presidency on the negotiations on a draft regulation establishing the third multi annual program for health as well as the progress on negotiations on the draft directive on the transparency measured regulating the pricing of medicinal products for human use and their inclusion within the scope of the national health insurance systems.	00:00:46
00:01:03	Cutaway of a photographer	00:00:06

00:01:09	SOUNDBITE by Androula Agroti (In Greek) saying that: Furthermore there was a Presidency information on the agreement reached on the draft regulation on food intended for infants and young children and on food for special medicinal purposes. After 3 trialogues, the Presidency managed to overcome the differences and reached an agreement.	00:00:25
00:01:34	SOUNDBITE by Tonio Borg, Member of the EC in charge of Health and Consumer Policy (In English) saying that: We cannot wait any longer until the 1st cross border health treaty arrives, we have to anticipate that and it is important that we adopt certain measures because no member states alone can stop a health crisis from crossing borders so the Commission is pushing on its proposals even to help member states as regards joined procurement of medical counter measures should a serious health threat arise.	00:00:34
00:02:08	Cutaway	00:00:11
00:02:19	SOUNDBITE by Tonio Borg (In English) saying that: During the Council emphasis was put on the importance of the medical devices proposal, this was almost unanimous trust which member states were pushing on the medical devices which as you know is a legislation that has been adopted and we look forward towards the adoption of the approval of this proposal and as you said Minister, during lunch we are going to discuss an action plan so rather than waiting for the approval of the directive itself, we are adopting an action plan in order to take immediate action as regards the safety of medical devices on the market.	00:00:38
00:02:57	Cutaway	00:00:07
00:03:04	SOUNDBITE by Tonio Borg (In English) saying that: Of course the tobacco directive was an agenda that we discussed as part as program of the Irish Presidency and as you know on ht e219th of November as Commissioner of the 1st day in office I sent the Tobacco directive to the inter-services consultation and hopefully this will be adopted as soon as possible, I have given myself the target of January but I will thrive so that I will see to it that the college may adopt the proposal even before that date.	00:00:38
00:03:42	Speakers leaving the press room	00:00:09
00:03:51	End	00:00:00

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