II

(Non-legislative acts)

DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/702

of 20 May 2020

further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 and extended by Decision (EU) 2020/556 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 240(3) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Council Decision (EU) 2020/430 ([1]) introduced a one-month derogation from the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure ([2]) as regards decisions to use the ordinary written procedure, where those decisions are taken by the Committee of the Permanent Representatives of the Governments of the Member States (Coreper). That derogation was foreseen until 23 April 2020.

(2) Decision (EU) 2020/430 provides that, if justified by continued exceptional circumstances, the Council may renew that Decision. On 21 April 2020, the Council by Decision (EU) 2020/556 ([3]) extended the derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430 for a further period of one month from 23 April 2020. That extension of the derogation expires on 23 May 2020.

(3) Given that the exceptional circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continue, with a number of extraordinary preventive and containment measures taken by Member States still in place, it is necessary to extend the derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430, as extended by Decision (EU) 2020/556, for a further limited period until 10 July 2020,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The derogation provided for in Article 1 of Decision (EU) 2020/430, as extended by Decision (EU) 2020/556, is hereby further extended until 10 July 2020.

([1]) Council Decision (EU) 2020/430 of 23 March 2020 on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 88 I, 24.3.2020, p. 1).

([2]) Council Decision 2009/937/EU of 1 December 2009 adopting the Council's Rules of Procedure (OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35).

([3]) Council Decision (EU) 2020/556 of 21 April 2020 extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430 in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 128 I, 23.4.2020, p. 1).

Article 2

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

It shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 20 May 2020.

For the Council
The President
G. GRLIĆ RADMAN