WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on the need for responsible corporate behaviour with regard to investment in developing countries

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Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament’s Rules of Procedure, on the need for responsible corporate behaviour with regard to investment in developing countries

1. The Commission has recently announced a proposal for a European External Investment Plan (EIP), which aims to encourage investment in Africa and the EU Neighbourhood and to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

2. The objectives of the EIP entail the fulfilment of commitments from the Addis Agenda on Financing for Development, which calls for reassurances to be provided that all companies, including multinationals, pay taxes to the governments of the countries where economic activity occurs and value is created.

3. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the developing countries lose some USD 100 billion per year in revenue as a result of tax avoidance by multinational enterprises and, on the basis of the Global Financial Integrity Report, illicit financial flows from developing countries represent an estimated USD 1 trillion.

4. The Commission is hence called upon, in the context of the Policy Coherence for Development, to reflect upon conditions for multinational enterprises investing in developing countries designed to ensure that responsible corporate tax behaviour is applied.

5. The Commission is also called upon to consider options on how partnership frameworks or funds for the needs of third countries, including established ones, could comprise internal assigned revenue reusable for its initial purpose.

6. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

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1 Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament’s Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament’s component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.