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**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND
THE COUNCIL**

**on exercising the power to adopt delegated acts conferred on the Commission pursuant
to Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18
January 2012 on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road**

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1. INTRODUCTION

Article 3(4) of Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council (¹) empowers the Commission to adopt, where necessary, delegated acts in accordance with Article 8 of that Regulation, to:

- update Part 1 of Annex I, solely in order to take account of economic and technical developments, except for any modifications to the optional nature of the required information;
- adapt Annexes II to VII to take account of economic and technical developments.

Under Article 3(4) of the same Regulation, when exercising that power, the Commission must ensure that any delegated acts it adopts do not impose significant additional administrative burdens on the Member States or respondents.

2. LEGAL BASIS

Under Article 8(2) of Regulation (EU) No 70/2012, the power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Article 3(4) of that Regulation is conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from 23 February 2012. The delegation of power is to be tacitly extended for periods of five years, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension.

The Commission must draw up a report in respect of the delegation of power not later than nine months before the end of the five-year period.

The Commission submitted previous reports in 2016 (²) and 2021 (³). The delegation of power was automatically extended for another five years from February 2017 to February 2022, and then, after the second report, for a further five years from February 2022 to February 2027, as neither Parliament nor the Council revoked it pursuant to Article 8(3).

¹ Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 January 2012 on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road (OJ L 32, 3.2.2012, p. 1; ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2012/70/oj>).

² Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the exercise of the power to adopt delegated acts conferred on the Commission under Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of 18 January 2012 on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road (COM(2016) 562 final, 12.9.2016; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52016DC0562>).

³ Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the exercise of the power to adopt delegated acts conferred on the Commission under Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 of 18 January 2012 on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road (COM(2021) 176 final, 14.4.2021; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021DC0176>).

This is the Commission's third report on exercising its power to adopt delegated acts.

3. EXERCISE OF THE DELEGATION

The Commission has not yet exercised the power to adopt delegated acts conferred on it by Regulation (EU) No 70/2012.

The Commission regularly discusses possible improvements to road freight transport statistics with the Member States, in the context of technical developments and new economic, environmental and societal requirements. The Commission, together with the Expert Group on Road Freight Transport Statistics and the Coordinating Group for Statistics on Transport, consider improvements to road freight transport statistics, while taking into account potential costs and burdens on countries and respondents.

Statistics are needed to monitor the implementation of the Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy (2020-2050 targets) ⁽⁴⁾ and to support actions that complement this flagship strategy, such as the Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) Directive ⁽⁵⁾, the EU's trans-European transport network (TEN-T) policy ⁽⁶⁾ and the electronic freight transport information (eFTI) Regulation ⁽⁷⁾. Such actions may require the Commission to adopt delegated acts adapting the aforementioned Annexes to Regulation (EU) No 70/2012 to economic and technical developments, in order to ensure the efficient monitoring of policy targets and trends.

⁴ COM(2020) 789 final, 9.12.2020;

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020DC0789>.

⁵ Directive (EU) 2023/2661 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 amending Directive 2010/40/EU on the framework for the deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport and for interfaces with other modes of transport (OJ L, 2023/2661, 30.11.2023;

ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2023/2661/oj>).

⁶ Regulation (EU) 2024/1679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1153 and (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 (OJ L, 2024/1679, 28.6.2024;

ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1679/oj>).

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2020/1056 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2020 on electronic freight transport information (OJ L 249, 31.7.2020, p. 33; ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/1056/oj>).