



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 24 June 2013

11409/13

UD 159

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion prop.: 10158/13 UD 114 RESTREINT UE

Subject: Adoption of a Council Decision to authorise the Commission to open negotiations for an Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand on customs co-operation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters

1. On 27 May 2013, the Commission submitted to the Council a recommendation for a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations for an agreement on customs co-operation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters between the European Union and New Zealand.
2. The Working Party on Competition examined the recommendation at its meeting on 18 June 2013 and agreed on a modified text of the draft decision and of the draft negotiating directives.
3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to suggest that the Council adopt the draft Decision and the negotiating directives set out in the Addendum to this note, as an "A" item, at one of its forthcoming meetings.