



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 13 July 2012

12211/12

**Interinstitutional File:
2012/0166 (NLE)**

**WTO 250
AGRI 486
UD 199
USA 17
OC 383**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat of the Council

to : Permanent Representatives Committee/ Council

No. Cion prop. : 12139/12 WTO 247 AGRI 478 UD 195 USA 15

Subject : Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the United States of America pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union

- Decision on the signing
- Request by the Council for the consent of the European Parliament

COMMON GUIDELINES

Consultation deadline: 17.7.2012

1. On 29 June 2012, the Commission submitted to the Council its proposal mentioned above.
2. The proposal was examined by the Trade Policy Committee (Deputies) at its meeting on 6 July 2012 and was subsequently endorsed.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council adopts, as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, the proposed Decision on the signing of the said Agreement, as finalised by the Legal/Linguistic experts and set out in documents 12212/12 WTO 251 AGRI 487 UD 200 USA 18 OC 384 and 12214/12 WTO 253 AGRI 489 UD 202 USA 20 OC 386.

4. Furthermore, with a view to preparing for the future conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the United States of America pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union, the Permanent Representatives Committee is also invited to recommend that the Council decides, as an "A" item at the same meeting, to forward the draft Decision on the conclusion of the said Agreement, as finalised by the Legal Linguistic experts and set out in documents 12213/12 WTO 252 AGRI 488 UD 201 USA 19 OC 385 and 12214/12 WTO 253 AGRI 489 UD 202 USA 20 OC 386, to the European Parliament for its consent.
