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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2016/...

of ...

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union,
of the Agreement between
the European Union and New Zealand
on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance
in customs matters**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a), thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament¹,

¹ Consent of ... (not yet published in the Official Journal).

Whereas:

- (1) On 22 July 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with New Zealand with a view to concluding an Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters ('the Agreement'). The negotiations were successfully concluded by the initialling of the Agreement on 23 September 2015. In accordance with Council Decision (EU) 2016/...^{1*}, the Agreement was signed on^{**}
- (2) The purpose of the Agreement is to establish the legal basis for a cooperation framework which aims to secure the supply chain and facilitate legitimate trade, as well as enable the exchange of information to ensure the proper application of customs legislation and the prevention, investigation and combating of breaches of customs legislation.
- (3) The Agreement should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2016/... of ... on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters (OJ L ...).

* OJ: please insert the number, date and publication reference of the Decision contained in document st7661/16.

** OJ: please insert the date of signature.

Article 1

The Agreement between the European Union and New Zealand on cooperation and mutual administrative assistance in customs matters is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council shall give, on behalf of the Union, the notification provided for in Article 21(1) of the Agreement.¹

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

¹ The date of entry into force of the Agreement will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.