



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

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REV 1

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COMMUNICATION

INFORMATION

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Subject: **EARLY WARNING**
Full Powers for the signing ceremony of the Partnership Agreement on Relations and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and New Zealand, of the other part (docs. 9787/16 and 9778/16)

With reference to communication CM 3672/16 of 1 August 2016, Member States are informed that the abovementioned Agreement will be adopted by the COMPET Council on 29 September 2016. The signature by the EU and New Zealand is envisaged to take place in Brussels on 5 October 2016, in the margins of the Afghanistan Conference.

Member States are required to sign the Agreement beforehand. For this purpose, the Agreement will be available for Member States' Permanent Representatives to sign in the margins of Coreper II on 5 October 2016. Member States which have already empowered Ministers, or their authorised representatives, to sign in the margins of the Conference on 5 October 2016 are kindly requested to contact the Council's Agreements Office in order to make the necessary arrangements.

Member States are requested, if required*, to ensure that an instrument of Full Powers, or at least a copy thereof, authorising their plenipotentiary to sign this Agreement, is duly issued and deposited with the Council's Agreements Office¹ (for the attention of Ida Jacobsen).

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* Full Powers are required to be issued to any plenipotentiary who is not a Head of State, Head of Government or a Minister for Foreign Affairs (see Article 7 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties). However, those Member States' Permanent Representatives who have communicated to the General Secretariat of the Council a general authorisation from their authorities to sign EU Agreements on behalf of their country are exempt from this requirement.