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European Union

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
No. prev. doc.:	7984/16 + ADD 1
No. Cion doc.:	JOIN(2016) 8 final + ANNEX 1
Subject:	Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Framework Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Australia, of the other part - Adoption

1. On 10 October 2011, the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, authorised the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to open negotiations with Australia on a Framework Agreement to replace the EU-Australia Partnership Framework of 2008 (14657/11 and 14658/11).
2. The negotiations on the Framework Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Australia, of the other part, were successfully concluded with the initialling of the Agreement on 5 March 2015.

3. On 14 April 2016, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Framework Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Australia, of the other part, and, at annex, the final result of the negotiations in the form of a draft Framework Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Australia, of the other part (7984/16 + ADD1).
4. At its meetings on 11 and 25 May 2016, the Asia-Oceania Working Party examined the proposals and reached agreement in principle on the texts on 27 May 2016.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council at one of its upcoming meetings:
 - adopts as an 'A' item the Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Framework Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Australia, of the other part, as set out after finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts in document 9773/16+ COR1 (de), and thereby authorise the signature and the provisional application of the Framework Agreement as set out in document 9776/16 + COR1 (de) + COR2 (cs) + COR3 (fr).
