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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council

No. prev. doc.: 15470/16
No. Cion doc.: JOIN(2016) 54 final

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion on behalf of the Union 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
- Request for the consent of the European Parliament

1. On 14 April 2016, the Commission submitted to the Council a Joint Proposal for Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application 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, and, at annex, the final result of the negotiations in the form of a draft 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 (7998/16 + ADD1).
2. On 29 September 2016, Council adopted a decision on the signing of the Agreement¹. The Agreement was signed in Brussels on 5 October 2016.

¹ OJ L 321, 29.11.2016, p.3.

3. On 28 November 2016 the Commission submitted to the Council a joint proposal of the High Representative and Commission for a Council Decision on the conclusion 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 [Ref. 2016/0366 (NLE) - JOIN(2016) 54 final].
4. On 7 December 2016, the Asia Oceania Working Party examined the above-mentioned proposal and agreed that, once the last scrutiny was lifted, it would be further processed with a view to requesting the consent of Parliament for conclusion of the Agreement.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council at one of its upcoming meetings:
 - decides to request the consent of the European Parliament on the basis of the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement, as set out after finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts in document 15470/16.
