



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 8 March 2017
(OR. en)

7094/17

Interinstitutional Files:

2010/0323 (NLE)

2010/0322 (NLE)

STIS 3
WTO 58
COEST 62
NIS 3

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: Trade Policy Committee (STIS)

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion doc.: 16383/10 WTO 376 STIS 16 COEST 353 NIS 131

Subject: Draft Council Decision on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, of the other part, amending the Agreement in order to extend the provisions of the Agreement to bilateral trade in textiles, taking account of the expiry of the bilateral textiles Agreement

- Adoption

1. On 15 November 2010, the Commission submitted to the Council its proposal mentioned above¹.
2. On 31 January 2011, the Council adopted the Decision on the signing, on behalf the European Union, of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, of the other part, amending the Agreement in order to extend the provisions of the Agreement to bilateral trade in textiles, taking account of the expiry of the bilateral textiles Agreement.

¹ Doc. 16383/10 WTO 376 STIS 16 COEST 353 NIS 131

Furthermore, in accordance with Article 218(6)(a)(v) TFEU, the Council agreed to forward the draft Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 16384/10 WTO 377 STIS 17 COEST 354 NIS 132, together with the Protocol itself (doc. 16388/10 WTO 379 STIS 19 COEST 356 NIS 135), to the European Parliament as a basis for its consent.

3. After the signature of the Protocol in Tashkent on 7 April 2011, the Council, on 14 April 2011, forwarded the draft Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol, together with the Protocol itself, to the European Parliament for its consent.
4. The European Parliament subsequently delayed its consent to the Protocol pending a favourable report from the ILO on child labour conditions.
5. On 14 December 2016, the European Parliament provided its consent as a result of the progress and commitments made by Uzbekistan in the fight against forced and child labour.
6. The draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement was endorsed by the Trade Policy Committee (STIS) on 7 March 2017.
7. The Permanent Representatives' Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council adopt the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol, as finalised by legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 16384/1/10 REV 1 WTO 377 STIS 17 COEST 354 NIS 132.