



Brussels, 11 April 2017  
(OR. en)

8155/17

SPG 20  
WTO 94  
DELECT 70

#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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No. Cion doc.: 5270/17 SPG 2 WTO 4 DELACT 11 + ADD 1

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Subject: COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... of 11.1.2017 amending Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 978/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council applying a scheme of generalised tariff preferences  
- Intention not to raise objections to a Delegated Act

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1. The Commission has submitted the above delegated act<sup>1</sup> to the Council in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 290 TFEU and Article 10(4) of the Regulation (EU) No 978/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 applying a scheme of generalised tariff preferences and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 732/2008, empowering the Commission to adopt delegated acts in order to amend Annex III to that Regulation. The proposed delegated act will amend the list of GSP + beneficiary countries by inserting Sri Lanka into Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 978/2012.
2. On 12 July 2016, the Commission received a request for a GSP + treatment from the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. The Commission has examined the request in accordance with the provisions of Article 10(1) of Regulation (EU) No 978/2012, and has established that Sri Lanka meets the eligibility criteria for GSP +. Sri Lanka should therefore be granted GSP + from the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

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<sup>1</sup> doc. 5270/17 + ADD 1

3. As the Commission notified the delegated act 11 January 2017, the Council had until 11 March 2017 to object to it. On 27 January 2017, the European Parliament notified to the Council its decision to extend the deadline for raising objection to the delegated act in question by two months, i.e. until 15 May 2017. The Council may therefore also object to the notified delegated act by this extended deadline.
4. During the informal consultation procedure within the framework of the Working Party on the Generalised System of Preferences, no objections were raised by delegations.
5. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives' Committee recommend that the Council confirm that it has no intention to object to the delegated act and that the Commission and the European Parliament are to be informed thereof. This implies that unless the European Parliament objects to it, the delegated act shall be published and enter into force in accordance with Article 36 of the Delegated Regulation.

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