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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	12793/17
No. Cion doc.:	11726/17
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, with regard to proposals of quality standards for fruit and vegetables to be adopted in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe - Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (UNECE-WP.7)

1. On 14 August 2017, the Commission submitted to the Council the above proposal which aims to establish a coordination of EU positions with regard to the quality standards for fruit and vegetables to be adopted in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe - Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (UNECE-WP.7).

The proposal is based on Articles 43 and 218(9) of the TFEU.

2. On 18 September 2017, the **Coordination Working Party** held a first discussion on the proposal¹. On the basis of comments expressed by the delegations, the Presidency prepared a revised text² of the proposal.
3. On 10 October 2017 the Presidency text was examined by the Working Party of Agriculture **Counsellors/Attachés**. The Working Party supported the text but also agreed that its readability could be improved by some editorial clarifications.
4. On 13 October 2017, the Working Party of Agriculture **Counsellors/Attachés** agreed through an informal procedure on the editorial clarifications suggested by the Presidency and those clarifications were included in the final compromise text which was submitted for a revision by the Legal/Linguistic experts.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited:
 - to confirm the agreement reached by the Working Party of Agriculture **Counsellors/Attachés** on the final compromise text as set out in document 13234/2017 following its revision by the Legal/Linguistic experts, and
 - to recommend to the Council to adopt the Council Decision as set out in document 13234/2017 at one of its forthcoming sessions, under an "A" Agenda Item.

¹ The outcome of proceedings of that meeting is set out in document **12695/17**.

² Doc. **12793/17**.