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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: Council Decision (EU) 2017/... of ... on the signing, on behalf of the Union, and provisional application of the Agreement

- Adoption

Council Decision (EU) 2017/... of ... on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems

- Request for consent of the European Parliament

1. On 17 December 2010, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the Swiss Confederation for the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems.

2. Following the finalisation of the negotiations, the Commission submitted to the Council on 16 August 2017 a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of that agreement¹, together with the text of the draft Agreement. On the same date, the Commission also submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the agreement².
3. On 11 September and 2 October 2017, the Working Party on the Environment examined the above-mentioned proposals and, following an informal silence procedure, agreed on the text of the draft Council Decision on the signing and of the draft Council Decision on the conclusion, on the basis of Presidency compromise texts.³
4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest that the Council, at one of its upcoming meetings:
 - adopt the draft Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts⁴;
 - note that the European Parliament will be informed of the adoption of the above-mentioned decision in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU;
 - agree in principle with the text of the agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems⁵ and decide to request the consent of the European Parliament on that text with a view to the later adoption of the Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts⁶.

¹ Doc. 11700/17 - COM(2017) 428 final + ADD 1

² Doc. 11699/14 - COM(2014) 427 final + ADD 1

³ Docs. 12684/17 and 12686/17

⁴ Doc. 13074/17

⁵ Doc. 13073/17

⁶ Doc. 13076/17