



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 10 December 2013
(OR. en)**

14735/13

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2013/0329 (NLE)**

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SERVICES 57**

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreements in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and its Member States on the one part and the Commonwealth of Australia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India and Japan on the other part pursuant to Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) 1994, relating to the modifications of the commitments in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union

COUNCIL DECISION No.../2013/EU

of ...

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union,
of the Agreements in the form of an Exchange of Letters
between the European Union and its Member States on the one part
and the Commonwealth of Australia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada,
the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China,
the Republic of India and Japan on the other part
pursuant to Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) 1994,
relating to the modifications of the commitments
in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania
in the course of their accession to the European Union**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 91, 100 (2) and Article 207(4) and (5), in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) (v) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) On 31 January 2008, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with certain other Members of the World Trade Organisation under Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) 1994, with a view to reaching an agreement on any necessary compensatory adjustment resulting from the modification of GATS trade commitments as a consequence of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.
- (2) The Commission has conducted negotiations within the framework of the negotiating directives adopted by the Council. The negotiations have been concluded.
- (3) The Agreements in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and its Member States on the one part and Commonwealth of Australia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India and Japan on the other part pursuant to Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) 1994, relating to the modification of commitments in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union ('the Agreements') were signed on behalf of the European Union and its Member States on [...], subject to their conclusion at a later date, in accordance with Council Decision ^{*1}.
- (4) The Agreements should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

* OJ please insert number of document 14720/13.

¹ OJ L [...], [...], p. [...]. OJ please insert OJ reference for document 14720/13.

Article 1

The Agreements in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and its Member States on the one part and the Commonwealth of Australia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India and Japan on the other part pursuant to Article XXI of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) 1994, relating to the modification of commitments in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union ('the Agreements') are approved on behalf of the Union.

The text of the Agreements is annexed to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council is authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to give, on behalf of the Union and its Member States, the notification provided for in the Agreements¹.

¹ The date of entry into force of the Agreements will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President
