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European Union

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
No. prev. doc.:	8885/15 JUSTCIV 115
No. Cion doc.:	5310/12 JUSTCIV 13
Subject:	Draft Council Decision authorising certain Member States to accept, in the interest of the European Union, the accession of Singapore to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction - Adoption - Statement by the Commission

Delegations will find attached a statement by the Commission to be included in the minutes of the Council relating to the draft Council Decision authorising certain Member States to accept, in the interest of the European Union, the accession of Singapore to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

Statement by the Commission relating to the draft Council Decision authorising certain Member States to accept, in the interest of the European Union, the accession of Singapore to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

The Commission regrets that the Council decisions cover only the Member States which have not yet accepted Andorra and Singapore: as a consequence, the Member States which proceeded to accept third States' accessions in the past are not covered by any authorisation by the Union, which is in principle necessary pursuant to Article 2(1) TFEU. Moreover, the Commission stresses that any future acceptance by Member States of the accession of a third country must be covered by a prior authorisation.