



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 18 December 2013

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**Interinstitutional File:
2012/0304 (NLE)**

**WTO 358
AGRI 870
UD 346
CHINE 5**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: Trade Policy Committee
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (part 2) / Council

No. Cion prop.: 16109/12 WTO 357 AGRI 742 UD 276 CHINE 9

Subject: Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedules of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the course of their accession to the European Union

1. The Commission submitted to the Council on 7 November 2012 a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing of the above-mentioned Agreement¹, as well as a proposal for a Council Decision on its conclusion².

¹ Doc. 16105/12 WTO 356 AGRI 741 UD 275 CHINE 8.

² Doc. 16109/12 WTO 357 AGRI 742 UD 276 CHINE 9.

2. The Council Decision on the signing of the Agreement was adopted by the Council on 6 December 2012¹. At the same time and in accordance with Article 218(6)(a)(v) TFEU, the Council decided to forward the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement, as finalised by the legal/linguistic experts and set out in documents 16112/12 and 16118/12, to the European Parliament for its consent, with a view to preparing for the future conclusion of the Agreement.
3. The Agreement was signed on 9 September 2013 with the People's Republic of China.
4. The European Parliament provided its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement on 10 December 2013.
5. The draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement was endorsed by the Trade Policy Committee (Deputies) on 18 December 2013.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council adopts, as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement, as finalised by legal/linguistic experts and set out in documents 16112/12 and 16118/12.

¹ Published in OJ L 337, 11.12.2012, p. 1.