



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

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## COMMUNICATION

### INFORMATION

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Subject: **EARLY WARNING**

Full Powers for the signing ceremony of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the SADC EPA States of the other part,

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In order to prepare for the signing by Member States of the abovementioned Agreement, which is envisaged to take place in Brussels on 23 May 2016, in the margins of the Foreign Affairs Council, Member States are requested to ensure that an instrument of Full Powers\* is duly issued, authorising their respective plenipotentiary to sign.

The original of these Full Powers, or at least a copy thereof, should be sent to the Council's Agreements Office<sup>1</sup> (for the attention of Ida JACOBSEN) by the date of the signature, at the latest.

\* Full Powers are required to be issued to any plenipotentiary who is not a Head of State, Head of Government or a Minister for Foreign Affairs (see Article 7 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties). However, those Member States' Permanent Representatives who have communicated to the General Secretariat of the Council a general authorisation from their authorities to sign EU Agreements on behalf of their country are exempt from this requirement.

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