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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part
- Request for the consent of the European Parliament

1. On 27 April 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council a joint proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part and, as an annex, the final result of the negotiations in the form of a Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part (8459/18 + ADD1). Furthermore, the Commission submitted a draft Declaration by the European Union on Article 47(3) of the Agreement (8459/18 ADD2).

2. On 26 June 2018, Council adopted a decision on the signing of the Agreement¹. The Agreement was signed in Tokyo on 17 July 2018.
3. On 27 April 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council a joint proposal on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part (8460/18).
4. On 25 July 2018, the Asia Oceania Working Party examined the above-mentioned proposal and agreed that it would be further processed with a view to requesting the consent of Parliament for conclusion of the Agreement.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council at one of its upcoming meetings:
 - decides to request the consent of the European Parliament on the basis of the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement, as set out after finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts in document 8462/18.

¹ OJ L 216, 24.08.2018, p.1.