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**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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From: ACP Working Party  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  
No. Cion doc.: COM(2018) 573 final + ANNEX  
Subject: Draft COUNCIL DECISION establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the EPA Committee set up by the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, concerning the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union - Adoption

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1. On 24 August 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the EPA Committee set up by the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, concerning the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union.
2. The ACP Working Party discussed the abovementioned proposal for the Council decision and agreed on the text of the draft Council Decision on 25 September 2018.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council adopt, as an “A” item, the text set out in document 12544/18, after finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, which will serve as a basis for negotiations in the EPA Committee set up by the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part.
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