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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

No. Cion doc.: ST 14183/16 + ADD 1

Subject: Draft Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, the Kingdom of Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised System of Preferences of the European Union
- Adoption

1. On 11 November 2016, the Commission submitted to the Council the above proposal, which aims at revising the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, the Swiss Confederation, Norway and Turkey, following the reform in 2010 of the generalised System of Preferences of the European Union. The proposal is based on Art. 207(4) first subparagraph in conjunction with Art. 218(6)(a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).
2. At its meeting on 23 November 2016, the Working Party on Customs Union reached an agreement on the text of the proposal.

3. On 20 February 2017, the Council adopted its Decision¹ on the signing of the above Agreement.
4. The Agreement was signed on 21 June 2017.
5. On 29 May 2018, the European Parliament voted in favour of the Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, the Kingdom of Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised System of Preferences of the European Union.²
6. Against this background, the Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to suggest to the Council to adopt, in part "A" of the agenda of a forthcoming meeting, the Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement in the form of exchange of letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, the Kingdom of Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised System of Preferences of the European Union, as contained in docs. 5883/2/17 REV 2 UD 18 SPG 9 and 5814/17 UD 16 SPG 7 (texts finalised by the legal/linguistic experts).

¹ As laid down in doc. 5804/17

² As laid down in EP document P8_TA(2018)0208