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European Union

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Subject: Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the Commission to launch negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the conclusion of a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives
- *Final Presidency suggested amendments*

Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.



COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 5 November 2013

15178/1/13
REV 1

RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED

PROBA 47
AGRIORG 148
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REVISED WORKING DOCUMENT

from: General Secretariat

to: Delegations

No prev. doc.: 15178/13 EU RESTRICTED

No Cion prop.: 13996/13 - COM(2013) 646 final

Subject: Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the Commission to launch negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the conclusion of a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives
- *Final Presidency suggested amendments*

1. Further to the reactions of delegations on the Presidency compromise text (doc. 15178/13), the Presidency suggests, in consultation with the Commission Services, some **final adjustments** to the text as set out in Annex.

The Presidency believes that with these final changes the text reflects the common ground in the Working Party.

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2. Delegations are informed that, if no objections are received by the Council Secretariat (e-mail: *secretariat.dgb1@consilium.europa.eu*) by **Thursday 7 November 2013 (noon)**, the text set out in Annex will be considered as approved by the Working Party on Commodities and will be submitted to Coreper 2 for approval, as an "I" item, and to Council, as an "A" item, for adoption prior to the IOC session (25-29 November 2013).
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Draft Council Decision

authorising the Commission to launch negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the conclusion of a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 207, 218(3) and (4) TFEU thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation of the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Union is a member of several international agricultural organisations, notably the International Olive Council.
- (2) It is in the European Union's interest to participate in a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives, considering the importance of that sector for a number of Member States and for the economy of the European olive-oil sector.
- (3) It is therefore appropriate that the Commission be authorised to launch negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement on olive oil, that negotiating guidelines be established and that a special committee be appointed that will be consulted by the Commission when conducting the negotiations,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Commission is authorised to launch negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the conclusion of a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives.

Article 2

The negotiating guidelines are presented in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 3

The negotiations will be conducted in consultation with the Council's Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) acting as a Special Committee in the sense of Article 218 (4) TFEU.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

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NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVES

The European Union should push for an agreement that guarantees:

- that the globalisation of the olive market be taken into account by reinforcing the organisation and expanding it so that it can accept new members including both the supply as well as the demand side;
- that the categorisation *in of* 'exporting/producing' and, 'importing/consuming' members and the basis for calculating the participating shares be clearly established taking into account both production and trade flows;
- that the current objectives of the organisation be adapted to take account of economic, technical, *research*, and commercial developments in the olive sector while respecting its specificities and serve the common interests of all members;
- that the organisation mainly focuses on international activities that concern common interests of a fundamental nature such as an international marketing standard, common inspection methods to improve and ensure quality;
- that the decision-making procedure of the organisation be clearly defined and meet the organisation's needs and objectives, having regard to the interests of all members;
- that the structure of the organisation support the objectives and that the financial aspects of the agreement, *including the budget structure*, be updated *recalling the need for a clear link between contributions and participating shares*;
- that organisational matters such as *the selection of the Executive Director, the election and term of office of the President and Vice President*, the quorum required for every session and the rules *of on* the payment of contributions (*including incentive and enforcement measures*) *as well as the need for regular reporting* are re-assessed.

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During the negotiations, the Commission shall regularly consult and report to the Council's Working Party on Commodities (PROBA). In order to ensure the efficiency of the negotiation process, the Commission may present *ad referendum* relevant views on issues *not yet discussed in the Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) and* not referred to in these guidelines *and shall return to the Council's Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) after each negotiation round.*

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