



Council of the
European Union

065490/EU XXVI. GP
Eingelangt am 21/05/19

Brussels, 21 May 2019
(OR. en)

8993/19

LIMITE

SERVICES 30
WTO 130

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION supplementing the negotiating directives for the Doha Development Agenda regarding the plurilateral negotiations of rules and commitments on electronic commerce

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/...

of ...

**supplementing the negotiating directives for the Doha Development Agenda
regarding the plurilateral negotiations of rules and commitments
on electronic commerce**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 207(4) in conjunction with Article 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Under the Doha Development Agenda, the Council authorised the opening of negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and addressed directives to the Commission, *inter alia* on trade in services, trade facilitation and the progressive liberalisation of trade rules.
- (2) On 13 December 2017, at the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation, 70 Members of the WTO adopted a Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce to initiate exploratory work towards future WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce.
- (3) On 25 January 2019, 76 Members of the WTO confirmed their intention to commence WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce.
- (4) The adoption of supplementary negotiating directives is necessary to further frame the position of the Union in the WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce.
- (5) Pursuant to Article 207(3) of the Treaty, the Trade Policy Committee should continue to be designated as the committee in consultation with which the negotiations shall be conducted,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The negotiating directives addressed to the Commission on the Doha Development Agenda are supplemented by the negotiating directives for the plurilateral negotiations of rules and commitments on electronic commerce set out in the Addendum to this Decision.

Article 2

The Commission shall conduct the negotiations in consultation with the Trade Policy Committee pursuant to Article 207(3) of the Treaty. The Commission shall report regularly to that Committee on the progress of the negotiations.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

For the Council

The President
