



Brussels, 19 June 2020
(OR. en)

8932/20

ACP 51
WTO 104
RELEX 461
COAFR 161

INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)
Subject: Joint EU-SADC EPA Council Decision regarding the request for accession of Angola

1. In accordance with Article 119(1) of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the SADC EPA States, of the other part¹ ('the Agreement'), a third state having competence for the matters covered by the Agreement may request to accede to the Agreement. It is for the Joint Council to agree to consider such a request.
2. Article 119(3) of the Agreement provides that, notwithstanding its paragraph (1), the Parties agree that, taking into account the specific situation of Angola, in the case of a request from Angola to the Joint Council to accede to the Agreement, negotiations concerning the terms of accession should be conducted on the basis of the Agreement. The Agreement thus recognises the special status of Angola with regard to a request to accede to the Agreement.
3. On 4 March 2020, Angola deposited its request to accede to the Agreement.
4. On 19 June 2020, the ACP Working Party agreed upon the attached draft Joint EU-SADC EPA Council Decision on the request from Angola pursuant to Article 119(1) of the EPA.

¹ OJ L 250, 16.9.2016, p. 3.

5. The ACP Working Party agreed to suggest to the Permanent Representatives Committee to take note of the draft Decision as set out in Annex I, which is intended to be adopted by the Joint EU-SADC EPA Council by written procedure in accordance with Article 8(4) of its rules of procedure of the Joint EU-SADC EPA Council².

² Decision No 1/2019 of the Joint Council established under the economic partnership agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the SADC EPA states, of the other part, of 19 February 2019, on the adoption of the rules of procedure of the Joint Council and of the Trade and Development Committee (OJ L 75, 19.3.2019, p.120).

DRAFT

DECISION No 1/2020

**OF THE JOINT COUNCIL
ESTABLISHED UNDER THE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND ITS MEMBER STATES, OF THE ONE PART,
AND THE SADC EPA STATES, OF THE OTHER PART**

of [XX XX 2020]

on the request from Angola pursuant to Article 119(1) of the EPA

THE JOINT COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the SADC EPA States, of the other part ('the Agreement'), and in particular Articles 100, 101 and 119 thereof and to Article 8(4) of Decision 1/2019 of the Joint Council (Rules of Procedure of the Joint Council),

Recalling that Article 119(3) of the Agreement provides that the Parties agree that in the case of a request from Angola to the Joint Council to accede to the Agreement, negotiations concerning the terms of accession should be conducted on the basis of the Agreement, taking into account the specific situation of Angola,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Joint Council agrees to the request from Angola to start negotiations concerning the terms of its potential accession to the EU-SADC EPA pursuant to Article 119(1) of the EPA.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, [...]

For the Joint Council

Representative of the SADC EPA States

Peggy O. SERAME

EU representative

Phil HOGAN
