



**Brussels, 9 April 2021  
(OR. en)**

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**PROBA 8  
AGRI 162  
WTO 84  
DEVGEN 55  
FORETS 21**

**'I' ITEM NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2021) 119 final
Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations to amend the International Cocoa Agreement 2010

1. On 16 March 2021, the Commission submitted a draft recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations to amend the International Cocoa Agreement 2010 (ICA) and the related draft negotiating directives, as set out in ST 7081/2021 + ADD 1. The International Cocoa Council, as the body responsible to carry out the provisions of the ICA, will take a decision on a possible review of the ICA at its 103rd regular session on 19-23 April 2021.
2. The Working Party on Commodities had been previously consulted by the Commission on the review of ICA, as outlined in WK 11231/2020 + REV 1 + REV 2 and WK 2081/2021. Based on Member States' comments, the Commission recommends that the EU enters into negotiations to review the ICA in order to further align it with practices the EU fosters in other international commodity bodies and with developments in the global cocoa market since 2010.
3. In line with suggestions of the Council Legal Service, the Presidency proposed amendments to the text, contained in WK 3693/2021. The members of the Working Party on Commodities discussed the amended recommendation during an informal videoconference meeting on 17 March 2021. Following comments from one delegation, the Presidency issued a revised

version of the recommendation, contained in WK 3693/2021 REV 1. The Working Party on Commodities agreed to this revised version via written consultation on 31 March 2021.

4. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:
- approve the text of the Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations to amend the ICA and the related negotiating directives, as set out in document ST 7335/2021 + ADD 1 after finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, and
  - decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision 2021/454, that the Council uses the written procedure for the adoption of the above-mentioned Council Decision.
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