



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 28 October 2021
(OR. en)

Interinstitutional File:
2021/0335(NLE)

13342/21
ADD 1

MAMA 181
MED 58
AGRI 512
PECHE 398
PA 4
WTO 248

COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2021) 651 final
Subject:	ANNEX to the Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by Article 63(1) of the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part

Delegations will find attached document COM(2021) 651 final.

Encl.: COM(2021) 651 final



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 27.10.2021
COM(2021) 651 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Proposal for a Council Decision

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by Article 63(1) of the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part

**DECISION No [...] OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION- PLO JOINT COMMITTEE
of [...]**

on the extension of the temporary amendments provided for by Point A of the Exchange of Letters between the European Union, of the one part, and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part

THE EUROPEAN UNION-PLO JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part (the 'Interim Association Agreement'), signed in Brussels on 24 February 1997, and in particular Article 63, paragraph 2 thereof, and

Having regard to the Exchange of Letters between the European Union, of the one part, and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, providing further liberalisation of agricultural products, processed agricultural products and fish and fishery products and amending the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other (the 'Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters'), signed on 13 April 2011, and in particular paragraph 1.(a) of point C thereof,

Whereas:

1. Paragraph 1 of Article 63 of the Interim Association Agreement gives the European Union-PLO Joint Committee (the 'Joint Committee') the power to take decisions in the cases provided for in the Agreement as well as in other cases necessary for the purpose of attaining the objectives set out in the Agreement.
2. Paragraph 1(a) of point C of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters provides that the Joint Committee may decide on an extension of the temporary amendments provided for under Point A of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters.
3. The time limit for the adoption of such decision by the Joint Committee has been set for allowing operators to adapt to the new situation and does not affect the powers of the Joint Committee as such. Both Parties have already indicated in 2020 their intention to continue the temporary amendments for another period of ten years.
4. Article 10 of the Rules of Procedures of the Joint Committee provides for the possibility of taking decisions by written procedure between sessions if both Parties so agree.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The temporary amendments provided for under point A of the Exchange of Letters between the European Union, of the one part, and the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other part, providing further liberalisation of agricultural products, processed agricultural products and fish and fishery products and amending the Euro-Mediterranean Interim Association Agreement on trade and cooperation between the European Community, of the one part, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, of the other, shall apply for an additional period of ten years.

Article 2

1. This Decision shall have legal effects as of the day of adoption and shall apply as of 1 January 2022 [first day after the end date of the initial temporary measure].
2. This Decision shall be drawn up in the official languages of the Parties to the Agreement, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at [...]

For the Joint Committee

The Chairman