



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 12 December 2018
(OR. en)

15544/18

Interinstitutional File:
2018/0091(NLE)

WTO 339
SERVICES 74
COASI 285

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| To: | Permanent Representatives Committee/Council |
| No. Cion doc.: | 7960/18 WTO 64 SERVICES 13 COASI 81 + ADD 1-11 |
| Subject: | Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership - Adoption |

1. On 18 April 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing¹, on behalf of the European Union, of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and Japan, as well as a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion² of that Agreement.

¹ Doc. 7959/18 WTO 63 SERVICES 12 COASI 80 + ADD 1-11.

² Doc. 7960/18 WTO 64 SERVICES 13 COASI 81 + ADD 1-11.

2. On 6 July 2018, the Council adopted the Decision on the signing³ of the Agreement. At the same time and in accordance with Article 218(6)(a)(v) TFEU, the Council decided to forward the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 7964/18 WTO 68 SERVICES 17 COASI 85, together with the Agreement itself⁴, to the European Parliament for its consent, with a view to preparing for the future conclusion of the Agreement.
3. The Agreement with Japan was signed on 17 July 2018.
4. On 11 December 2018, the Trade Policy Committee (Deputies) endorsed the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement, pending the outcome of the European Parliament's vote on the consent.
5. On 12 December 2018, the European Parliament provided its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement.
6. In light of the above, and subject to confirmation by the Permanent Representatives' Committee, the Council is invited to:
 - adopt, as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, the Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 7964/18 WTO 68 SERVICES 17 COASI 85;
 - note that the European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU, and that the Council Decision on the conclusion will be transmitted to the European Parliament.

³ Doc. 7963/18 WTO 67 SERVICES 16 COASI 84 (published in OJ L 174, 10.7.2018, p. 1).

⁴ Doc. 7965/18 WTO 69 SERVICES 18 COASI 86.