



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 29 January 2016  
(OR. en)

15561/15

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2015/0298 (NLE)**

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**WTO 298**  
**AGRI 698**  
**UD 266**  
**CHINE 35**

#### **LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedule of the Republic of Croatia in the course of its accession to the European Union

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**COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2016/...**

**of ...**

**on the conclusion of the Agreement  
in the form of an Exchange of Letters  
between the European Union  
and the People's Republic of China  
pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII  
of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994  
relating to the modification of concessions in the schedule  
of the Republic of Croatia in the course of its accession to the European Union**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular first subparagraph of Article 207(4), in conjunction with point (a)(v) of the second subparagraph of Article 218(6) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament<sup>1</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

Whereas:

- (1) On 15 July 2013 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with certain other Members of the World Trade Organization under Article XXIV:6 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994, in the course of the accession to the European Union of the Republic of Croatia.
- (2) Negotiations have been conducted by the Commission within the framework of the negotiating directives adopted by the Council.
- (3) Those negotiations have been concluded and an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedule of the Republic of Croatia in the course of its accession to the European Union was initialled on 7 October 2015.
- (4) The Agreement was signed on behalf of the Union on [...], subject to its conclusion at a later date, in accordance with Council Decision [...]¹\*.
- (5) The Agreement should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

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¹ OJ L [...], [...], p. [...].

\* OJ: please insert in the text the date of signature and the references (date and full title) of doc. 15560/15 and complete the footnote by indicating its reference of publication.

### *Article 1*

The Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the People's Republic of China pursuant to Article XXIV:6 and Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions in the schedule of the Republic of Croatia in the course of its accession to the European Union, is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision. \*

### *Article 2*

The President of the Council shall designate the person empowered to proceed, on behalf of the Union, to the notification provided for in the Agreement, in order to express the consent of the European Union to be bound by the Agreement.<sup>1</sup>

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\* OJ: the text of the Agreement is set out in doc. 15562/15.

<sup>1</sup> The date of entry into force of the Agreement will be published in the Official journal of the European Union by the General Secretariat of the Council.

*Article 3*

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

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council*

*The President*

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