



Brussels, 15 January 2019
(OR. en)

5343/19

**Interinstitutional File:
2018/0377(NLE)**

**ACP 2
WTO 13
RELEX 27
COAFR 5**

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: ACP Working Party
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion doc.: 13846/18 - COM(2018) 729 final + ADD 1

Subject: Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within 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, as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedure for dispute avoidance and settlement and the Code of Conduct for arbitrators and mediators
- Adoption

1. On 5 November 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Council established under the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and SADC EPA States, of the other part as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedure for Dispute Avoidance and Settlement and the Code of Conduct for Arbitrators and Mediators.
2. The ACP Working Party discussed the abovementioned proposal for a Council Decision and agreed on the text of the draft Council Decision on 13 December 2018.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council:

- adopt, as an “A” item, the text set out in document 15617/18, after finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, which will serve as a basis for negotiations in 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;
- inform the European Parliament of the adoption of the Council Decision.
