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SERVICES 2
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'A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
No. prev. doc.:	6125/1/20 REV 1
No. Cion doc.:	13313/18 WTO 265 SERVICES 63 COASI 250 + ADD 1-12
Subject:	Council Decision on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam - Adoption

1. On 19 October 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing¹, on behalf of the European Union, of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, as well as a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion² of that Agreement.
2. On 25 June 2019, 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, together with the Agreement itself⁴, to the European Parliament for its consent, with a view to preparing for the future conclusion of the Agreement.

¹ doc. 13312/18 + ADD 1-12.

² doc. 13313/18 + ADD 1-12.

³ doc. 6048/19 (published in OJ L 177, 2.7.2019, p. 1).

⁴ doc. 6051/19 + ADD 1-10.

3. The Agreement with Viet Nam was signed on 30 June 2019.
4. On 12 February 2020, the European Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement.
5. The draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement was endorsed by the Trade Policy Committee (Deputies) on 14 February 2020, and by the Permanent Representatives' Committee on 26 February 2020.
6. In light of the above, the Council is invited to:
 - adopt, as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, the Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 6050/19 + 6050/1/19 REV 1 (ga);
 - note that the European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU, and that the Council Decision will be transmitted to the European Parliament;
 - decide to enter in its minutes the statement contained in addendum to this note.
