Council of the European Union

Brussels, 24 June 2021
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**Interinstitutional File: 2021/0003(NLE)**

**WTO 167**
**AGRI 304**
**UD 174**
**UK 156**

**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| To: | Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council |
| No. Cion doc.: | 5441/21 + ADD 1 |
| Subject: | Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Thailand pursuant to Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions on all the tariff-rate quotas included in the EU Schedule CLXXV as a consequence of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union<br>- Adoption |

1. On 19 January 2021, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing[1] of the Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Thailand pursuant to Article XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994 relating to the modification of concessions on all the tariff-rate quotas included in the EU Schedule CLXXV as a consequence of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union, as well as a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion[2] of that Agreement.

[1] ST 5440/21 + ADD 1.
[2] ST 5441/21 + ADD 1.

2. On 22 February 2021, the Council adopted the Decision on the signing[3] of the Agreement. At the same time and in accordance with Article 218(6)(a)(v) TFEU, the Council decided to forward the draft Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in document 5444/21, together with the Agreement itself[4], to the European Parliament for its consent, with a view to preparing for the future conclusion of the Agreement.

3. The Agreement with the Kingdom of Thailand was signed on 7 May 2021.

4. On 18 June 2021, 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 23 June 2021, 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 5444/21; and

   - 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.

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[3] ST 5443/21 (published in OJ L 72, 3.3.2021, p. 1).
[4] ST 5445/21.