Council of the European Union

Brussels, 2 October 2020
(OR. en)

10961/20

Interinstitutional File: 2020/0123(NLE)

CLIMA 210
ENV 533
ENER 326
IND 165
COMPET 451
MI 380
ECOFIN 877
TRANS 440
AELE 66
CH 26

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	10467/20
No. Cion doc.:	9068/20 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems as regards the adoption of Common Operational Procedures – Adoption

1. On 10 November 2017, the Council adopted Decision (EU) 2017/2240 on the signing, on behalf of the Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems and provisional application of the Agreement[1]. The Agreement was signed on 23 November 2017.

[1] OJ L 322, 7.12.2017, p. 1.

2. The Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems ('the Agreement') was concluded by the Union by Council Decision (EU) 2018/219[2] and entered into force on 1 January 2020.

3. Article 12 of the Agreement establishes a Joint Committee, which is responsible for the implementation of the Agreement. Pursuant to Article 3(6) of the Agreement, the Joint Committee may adopt a decision on Common Operational Procedures (COP) developed by the Swiss registry administrator and the Union central administrator that are related to technical and other matters necessary for the operation of the linking.

4. On 23 June 2020, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems as regards the adoption of Common Operational Procedures[3].

5. On 16 July 2020, The Working Party on the Environment (WPE) examined the Commission proposal. Based on the discussions in the WPE and delegations' comments, the Presidency prepared a compromise proposal which was agreed by the WPE on 9 September following an informal silence procedure[4].

6. Therefore, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend that the Council, as an "A" item on the agenda of one of its forthcoming meetings, adopt the Council Decision, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts, on the position to be taken, on behalf of the European Union, within the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation, on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems as regards the adoption of Common Operational Procedures[5].

7. The text of the Council Decision will be transmitted to the European Parliament for information in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU.

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[2] OJ L 43, 16.2.2018, p. 1.
[3] Doc. 9068/20 + ADD 1
[4] Doc. 10467/20
[5] Docs. 10677/20 (Council Decision) and 10831/20 (draft Decision of the Joint Committee).