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**Interinstitutional File:  
2017/0159 (NLE)**

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**PROBA 29  
DEVGEN 135  
FORETS 55  
WTO 68  
RELEX 1047**

**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	11409/17
Subject:	Council Decision concerning the withdrawal of the European Union from the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) - Agreement in principle - Request for the consent of the European Parliament

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1. On 18 July 2017, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision concerning the membership of the EU in the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) (ST 11409/17).
2. On 24 July 2025, the Working Party on Commodities (PROBA) reached agreement on a revised Presidency proposal for a Council Decision and agreed that it should be further processed with a view to requesting the consent of the European Parliament on the withdrawal of the EU from the IRSG.
3. Upon agreement, several Member States requested a statement from the Commission to provide reassurance regarding the robustness of future monitoring and policy-making in the area of natural rubber and demonstrate the Commission's commitment to maintaining a sound evidence base for its actions.

4. Notice of withdrawal from the IRSG shall be delivered in writing to the Secretary-General of the IRSG by 1 November to be effective on 30 June of the subsequent calendar year.  
Members giving notice after 1 November shall be liable for the membership contributions for the next ensuing financial year.
5. The EU should therefore notify the IRSG Secretary-General by 1 November 2025 at the latest in order for the withdrawal to be effective on 30 June 2026 and avoid liability for the membership contributions for the next ensuing financial year.
6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend the Council to:
  - confirm the agreement in principle on the draft Council Decision on the withdrawal of the European Union from the International Rubber Study Group (IRSG), as set out after finalisation by the legal-linguistic experts in document ST 11951/25;
  - request the consent of the European Parliament on the basis of the aforementioned document. In light of the obligation to notify the IRSG Secretary-General by 1 November 2025 at the latest in order not to prolong EU membership in, and financial contribution to, the IRSG, the European Parliament should kindly be asked to give its consent as soon as possible and by the plenary session of 6-9 October 2025 at the latest.

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