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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	12340/26 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Trade and Development Committee established by 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, on the replacement of the list of arbitrators - Adoption

1. On 6 August 2026, 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 Trade and Development Committee established by 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 replacement of the list of individuals who are willing and able to serve as arbitrators.
2. The ACP Working Party discussed the abovementioned proposal for a Council Decision and agreed on the text of the draft Council Decision on 22 September 2026.

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

- adopt the draft Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Trade and Development Committee established by 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, on the replacement of the list of arbitrators, as set out in document ST 13518/26 + ADD 1, after finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts;
 - order the publication of the Council Decision in the Official Journal;
 - order that the decision of the EPA Committee, once adopted, be published in the Official Journal;
 - inform the European Parliament of the adoption of the Council Decision.
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