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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the Committee on Customs established under the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Singapore, as regards the amendment of Protocol 1 concerning the definition of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2022/...

of ...

**on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union
within the Committee on Customs established under the Free Trade Agreement
between the European Union and the Republic of Singapore,
as regards the amendment of Protocol 1
concerning the definition of ‘originating products’
and methods of administrative cooperation**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 207(4), in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Singapore ('the Agreement') was concluded by the Union by means of Council Decision (EU) 2019/1875¹, and entered into force on 21 November 2019.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 34 of Protocol 1 to the Agreement, the Committee on Customs may adopt Decisions to amend the provisions of that Protocol.
- (3) The Committee on Customs, during its first meeting, is to adopt a Decision amending Protocol 1 and its Annexes ('the Decision').
- (4) It is appropriate to establish the position to be adopted on the Union's behalf in the Committee on Customs, as the Decision will be binding on the Union.
- (5) Amendments to the Protocol were introduced on 1 January 2012, on 1 January 2017 and on 1 January 2022 in relation to the nomenclature governed by the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System ('HS'). The Decision is necessary to update Protocol 1 and its Annexes to reflect the latest version of the HS.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2019/1875 of 8 November 2019 on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Singapore (OJ L 294, 14.11.2019, p. 1).

- (6) The scope of the annual quotas set out in Annex B(a) to Protocol 1 for canned luncheon meat, curry fish balls and cuttlefish balls should be expanded in order to allow Singaporean exporters to use them.
- (7) In order to provide for equal treatment of the economic operators in both Parties as regard the certification of the origin, Protocol 1 should be amended so that each Party may decide, according to its laws and regulations, which exporter may self-certify the origin of its originating goods. In the Union, this will allow the origin of the goods to be certified by registered exporters instead of by approved exporters, similarly to the system applied by Singapore in the context of the Agreement,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be adopted on the Union's behalf in the first meeting of the Committee on Customs shall be based on the draft Decision of the Committee on Customs attached to this Decision.

Minor technical corrections to the draft Decision may be agreed by the representatives of the Union in the Committee on Customs.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President
