Council of the European Union

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'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Implementation Committee established pursuant to Article 18 of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on forest law enforcement, governance and trade as regards the adoption of the rules of procedure of the Joint Implementation Committee *- Decision to use the written procedure for the adoption*

1. The Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on forest law enforcement, governance and trade which aims at ensuring that all imports into the European Union from this country of timber and timber products covered by the agreement have been legally produced entered into force on 1 June 2019[1].

[1] OJ L 241, 19.9.2019, p. 1

2. On 31 October 2019, the Commission submitted to the Council the proposal for a Council decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Implementation Committee established pursuant to Article 18 of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on forest law enforcement, governance and trade as regards the adoption of the rules of procedure of the Joint Implementation Committee[2].

3. At the meetings of the Working Party on Forestry of 25 November 2019 and the Working Party of Counsellors/Attachés of 2 December 2019, delegations examined the above proposal and agreed on the text of the draft Council decision.

4. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited:

   – to confirm its agreement on the text of the Council decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Implementation Committee established pursuant to Article 18 of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on forest law enforcement, governance and trade as regards the adoption of the rules of procedure of the Joint Implementation Committee, as finalised by lawyer-linguists and set out in documents 15095/19 and 7027/20, and

   – to decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision 2020/430, that the Council uses the written procedure for its adoption.

5. In accordance with Article 218(10) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the European Parliament will be informed of the Council Decision.

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[2] 13760/19 + ADD 1