Council of the European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam - Adoption Council Decision on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam - Request for the consent of the European Parliament

1. On 19 October 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council:

   a) a proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (doc. 13312/18 + ADD 1-12); and

   b) a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (doc. 13313/18 + ADD 1-12).

2. The above-mentioned proposals were examined by the Trade Policy Committee at its meetings on 26 October, 6 November, 30 November, 7 December and 18 December 2018. They were subsequently endorsed, as modified to take into account a number of necessary adjustments, by the Trade Policy Committee (Full Members) at its meeting on 20 March 2019.

3. In light of the above, and subject to confirmation by the Permanent Representatives' Committee, the Council is invited to:

- adopt the Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in documents 6048/19 and 6051/19 + ADD 1 - 10;

- note that the European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU and that the Council Decision on the signing will be transmitted to the European Parliament;

- decide to forward the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in documents 6050/19 and 6051/19 + ADD 1 - 10, to the European Parliament for its consent;

- decide to enter in its minutes the statements contained in addendum to this note.