



Council of the
European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	13050/21 + ADD 1 - COM (2021) 637 final
Subject:	Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation 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 adoption of the Rules of Procedure for the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation

1. On 20 October 2021, the Commission presented to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation and in the Special Committee on Geographical Indications and Trade in Wines and Spirits 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 adoption of the Rules of Procedure for the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation and of the Rules of Procedure of the Special Committee on Geographical Indications and Trade in Wines and Spirits, respectively¹.

¹ 13050/21 + ADD 1.

2. As further discussions were needed with the SADC EPA States on the draft rules of procedure of the Special Committee on Geographical Indications and Trade in Wines and Spirits, it was decided to split the draft Council Decision in two in order to allow for the adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation.
3. The ACP Working Party examined the amended draft Council Decision and reached agreement on the text on 15 March 2022.
4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend that, at one of its forthcoming meetings, the Council:
 - adopt the proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation 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 adoption of the Rules of Procedure for the Special Committee on Customs and Trade Facilitation, as set out, after finalisation of the text by the legal/linguistic experts, in ST 7222/22 + ADD 1;
 - order 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.
