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European Union

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From: General Secretariat
To: Delegations

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Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the Council of Members of the International Olive Council concerning the prolongation of the 2005 International Agreement on olive oil and table olives
- *Presidency suggested amendments*

Further to the Working Party on Commodities meeting on 11 July 2014, delegations will find attached in Annex the Presidency suggested amendments to the Commission proposal which have been agreed by the Working Party. The changes are marked in bold and italics and strikethrough.

The document will be submitted as an I/A point to Coreper/Council.

DRAFT COUNCIL DECISION

**on the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union within the Council of Members
of the International Olive Council concerning the prolongation of the 2005 International
Agreement on olive oil and table olives**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article
~~43(2)~~ 207, in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The International Agreement on olive oil and table olives¹ (the ‘Agreement’) will expire on 31 December 2014 unless the Council of Members of the International Olive Council (IOC) decides to prolong it in accordance with Articles 47(1) and (2) of the Agreement for not more than two periods of up to two years each.
- (2) On 19 ~~September~~ *November* 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations on behalf of the Union for the conclusion of a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives. ~~The negotiating directives stipulate that ‘during the initial negotiation phase, the Commission is authorised to present any relevant views on any issues not referred to in the guidelines’².~~
- (3) A new agreement is currently being discussed within the IOC. Progress is such that it is now certain that the deadline of 31 December 2014 for the conclusion of an agreement cannot be met. It is therefore in the Union's interest to ensure that the existing Agreement is prolonged.

¹ OJ L 302, 19.11.2005, p. 47.

² ~~COM(2013) 646 final, 19.9.2013.~~

- (4) Prolongation of the existing Agreement is separate from the negotiations concerning the conclusion of a new Agreement. The Commission, which represents the Union within the IOC, should therefore be authorised to request a prolongation of the existing Agreement by one year and to vote in favour of such prolongation if it is included in the agenda of a meeting of the IOC Council of Members.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Sole Article

The position to be adopted by the European Union within the Council of Members of the International Olive Council is to request a prolongation of the existing Agreement by one year and to vote in favour of the prolongation of the 2005 International Agreement on olive oil and table olives if this were proposed to the Council of Members.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President
