



Brussels, 6.8.2018
COM(2018) 571 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Proposal for a Council Decision

establishing a European Union Position in view of the adoption of a decision of the EPA Committee set up by the Stepping Stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Ghana, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, regarding the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union

ATTACHMENT

DRAFT

DECISION No ... /2018 OF THE EPA COMMITTEE

**set up by the Stepping Stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Ghana, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part,
of the [date]**

regarding the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union

THE EPA COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Interim Economic Partnership Agreement between Ghana, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part (the "Agreement"), signed in Brussels the 28 July 2016, and provisionally applied since 15 December 2016, and notably Articles 76, 77 et 81,

Having regard to the Treaty concerning the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union (the "Union") and to the Act of Accession to the Agreement deposited by the Republic of Croatia on 8 November 2017,

Whereas:

- (1) The Agreement applies, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty on the functioning of the Union is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty, and, on the other hand, to the territory of Ghana.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 77 of the Agreement, the EPA Committee may decide on any amending measures that might be necessary in connection with the accession of new Member States to the Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Republic of Croatia, as a party to the Agreement, shall, in the same way as the other Member States of the Union, respectively, adopt and take note of the texts of the Agreement, as well as the annexes, protocols and declarations attached thereto.

Article 2

The Agreement is amended as follows: Article 81 is replaced by the following:

“Article 81

Authentic languages

This Agreement is drawn up in duplicate in the Bulgarian, Czech, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish and Swedish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.”

Article 3

The Union shall communicate to the Republic of Ghana the Croatian language version of the Agreement.

Article 4

The provisions of the Agreement apply to goods exported either from the Republic of Ghana to the Republic of Croatia or from the Republic of Croatia to the Republic of Ghana which comply with the rules of origin in force on the territory of the parties to the Agreement which, on 15 December 2016, were in transit or in temporary storage, in a customs warehouse or in a free zone in the Republic of Ghana or in the Republic of Croatia.

Preferential treatment shall be granted in the cases as referred to in paragraph 1, provided that a proof of origin issued retroactively by the customs authorities of the exporting country is submitted to the customs authorities of the importing country within four months of the date of entry into force of this Decision.

Article 5

The Republic of Ghana undertakes not to introduce claims, requests or remedies nor to modify or withdraw any concessions in accordance with Article XXIV (6) and Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 or Article XXI of the GATS in relation to the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the Union.

Article 6

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

However, Articles 3 and 4 are applicable from 15 December 2016.

Done at xxx, on

For the Republic of Ghana

For the European Union