Council Decision (EU) 2020/1581 of 23 October 2020 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Association Committee in Trade configuration established by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part, regarding the update of Annex XIII (Approximation of customs legislation) to the Agreement

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/1581

of 23 October 2020

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Association Committee in Trade configuration established by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part, regarding the update of Annex XIII (Approximation of customs legislation) to the Agreement

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 207(4), in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part[(1)] ('the Agreement') was concluded by the Union by Council Decision (EU) 2016/838[(2)] and entered into force on 1 July 2016.

(2) Pursuant to Article 406(3) of the Agreement, the Association Council has the power to update or amend the Annexes to the Agreement.

(3) Pursuant to Article 408(2) of the Agreement, the Association Council may delegate to the Association Committee any of its powers, including the power to take binding decisions.

(4) Pursuant to Article 1 of the Decision No 3/2014 of the Association Council[(3)], the Association Council delegated the power to update or amend the Annexes to the Agreement which relate, inter alia, to Chapter 5 (Customs and trade facilitation) of Title IV (Trade and Trade-related Matters) of the Agreement to the Association Committee in Trade configuration, to the extent that there are no specific provisions in Chapter 5 relating to the update or the amendment of those Annexes.

(5) The Association Committee in Trade configuration, during its 7th meeting, is to adopt a decision regarding the update of Annex XIII (Approximation of customs legislation) to the Agreement.

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Decision (EU) 2020/1581. (See end of Document for details)*

(6) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on the Union's behalf in the Association Committee in Trade configuration, as the envisaged decision will be binding on the Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be taken on the Union's behalf at the 7th meeting of the Association Committee in Trade configuration, as referred to in Article 408(4) of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part, regarding the update of Annex XIII (Approximation of customs legislation) to the Agreement, shall be based on the draft Decision of the Association Committee in Trade configuration[(4)].

Article 2

After its adoption, the Decision of the Association Committee in Trade configuration referred to in Article 1 shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 3

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

Done at Luxembourg, 23 October 2020.

For the Council

The President

S. SCHULZE