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. prev. doc.:	ST 8007/24
No. Cion doc.:	ST 7247/24 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council Decision on the accession of the Kingdom of Tonga to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part - Adoption

1. On 1 March 2024, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the accession of Tonga to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part and, as an annex, the market access offer presented by Tonga (ST 7247/24 + ADD 1).

2. On 19 March 2024, the ACP Working Party examined the above-mentioned proposal and agreed to the text of the draft Council Decision.

3. On 17 June 2024, the Council requested the consent of the European Parliament to the accession of the Kingdom of Tonga to the Agreement.

4. The European Parliament gave its consent on 18 December 2024.

5. The ACP Working Party confirmed its agreement on the text of the draft Council Decision at its meeting on 14 January 2025.

6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to recommend that the Council at one of its upcoming meetings:

   – adopt, as an "A" item, the Council Decision on the accession of the Kingdom of Tonga to the Interim Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Pacific States, of the other part, as set out after finalisation by the legal-linguistic experts in documents ST 7921/1/24 REV 1 + ST 7921/24 ADD 1;

   – inform the European Parliament of the adoption of the Council Decision;

   – order its publication in the Official Journal.