EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 15.5.2013
COM(2013) 290 final

Annex XIII

ANNEX

Joint Declaration to the Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine of the other

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to the

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

on the conclusion of the Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part, on behalf of the European Union

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JOINT DECLARATION

The European Union (hereinafter referred to as the "EU") recalls the obligations of those states that have established a Customs Union with the EU to align their trade regime to the one of the EU, and for certain of them, to conclude preferential agreements with countries having preferential agreements with the EU.

In this context, the Parties note that Ukraine shall start negotiations with those states which

(a) have established a Customs Union with the EU, and

(b) whose products do not benefit from the tariff concessions under this Agreement,

with a view to concluding a bilateral agreement establishing a free trade area in accordance with Article XXIV of the GATT (thus covering substantially all trade). Ukraine shall start negotiations as soon as possible with a view to having the above-mentioned agreement entering into force as quickly as possible after the entry into force of this Agreement.