### COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/1491

#### of 12 October 2020

### establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the EPA Committee set up by the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, concerning the adoption of the list of arbitrators

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 stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part (<sup>1</sup>) (the 'Agreement') was signed on behalf of the Union pursuant to Council Decision 2009/156/EC (<sup>2</sup>) and has been applied on a provisional basis since 3 September 2016.
- (2) In accordance with Article 64(1) of the Agreement, the EPA Committee is to establish a list of persons who are willing and able to serve as arbitrators (the 'list of arbitrators').
- (3) The EPA Committee, at its next annual meeting, is to adopt a decision establishing the list of arbitrators in accordance with Article 64(1) of the Agreement.
- (4) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on the Union's behalf within the EPA Committee, as the decision establishing the list of arbitrators will be binding on the Union.
- (5) The position of the Union within the EPA Committee should therefore be based on the draft decision of that Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

## Article 1

The position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the EPA Committee set up by the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, shall be based on the draft decision of the EPA Committee concerning the adoption of the list of individuals who are willing and able to serve as arbitrators (<sup>3</sup>).

# Article 2

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

Done at Luxembourg, 12 October 2020.

For the Council The President J. BORRELL FONTELLES

(<sup>1</sup>) OJ L 59, 3.3.2009, p. 3.

<sup>(&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>) Council Decision 2009/156/EC of 21 November 2008 on the signature and provisional application of the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Côte d'Ivoire, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part (OJ L 59, 3.3.2009, p. 1).

<sup>(3)</sup> See document ST 10614/20 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu