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Note for the attention of the Trade Contact Group

Subject: Accession of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Convention on a common transit procedure and to the Convention on simplification of formalities in trade in goods

On 28 May 2018, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ("the United Kingdom") expressed its wish to accede to the Convention of 28 May 1987 on a common transit procedure and to the Convention of 28 May 1987 on simplifications of formalities in trade in goods as a separate Contracting Party.

On 4 December 2018, the EU-CTC Joint Committee on common transit and on simplification of formalities in trade in goods invited the United Kingdom to accede to both Convention.

In accordance with Article 15a (2) of the Convention on a common transit procedure and with Article 11a (2) and of the Convention on simplification of formalities in trade in goods, a third country invited to become a Contracting Party is to do so by lodging an instrument of accession with the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU (the depositary).

On 30 January 2019, the United Kingdom lodged the said instrument to both Conventions with the depositary.

Normally, accessions become effective on the first day of the second month following the lodging of the instrument of accession. However, on 1 March 2019 the United Kingdom will still be a Member of the European Union, which is a Contracting Party to both Conventions. Therefore, the accession of the United Kingdom will become effective only as from the date on which those Conventions will no longer apply to and in the United Kingdom as a Member of the European Union or, should the European Union and the United Kingdom agree on transitional arrangements whereby the Conventions would apply to and in the United Kingdom, as from the date on which such transitional

arrangements cease to apply (see Article 1 of respective decision 1/2018 of the EU-CTC Joint Committee¹²).

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¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2018.317.01.0047.01.ENG&toc=QJ:L:2018:317:TOC

² https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2018.317.01.0056.01.ENG&toc=QJ:L:2018:317:TOC