

- (8) The Protocol should not be construed as conferring rights or imposing obligations which can be directly invoked before Union or Member State courts or tribunals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The signing on behalf of the Union of the Protocol of Accession to the Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Colombia and Peru, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Ecuador is hereby authorised, subject to the conclusion of the said Protocol.
2. The text of the Protocol is attached to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Protocol on behalf of the Union.

Article 3

The Protocol shall be applied between the Union and Ecuador on a provisional basis by the Union as provided for in Article 27(4) thereof, ⁽¹⁾ pending the completion of the procedures necessary for its conclusion. As a result, the provisions of the Agreement shall be applied on a provisional basis by the Union as provided for in Article 330(3) thereof, pending the completion of the procedures necessary for the conclusion of the said Protocol, with the exception of Article 2, Article 202(1) and Articles 291 and 292 of the Agreement.

Article 4

The Protocol shall not be construed as conferring rights or imposing obligations which can be directly invoked before Union or Member State courts or tribunals.

Article 5

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

Done at Brussels, 11 November 2016.

For the Council
The President
P. ŽIGA

⁽¹⁾ The date from which the Protocol will be provisionally applied will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.