DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1016

of 23 June 2015

on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, within the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114, in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2894/94 of 28 November 1994 concerning arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area [1], and in particular Article 1(3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The Agreement on the European Economic Area [2] ('the EEA Agreement') entered into force on 1 January 1994.

(2) Pursuant to Article 98 of the EEA Agreement, the EEA Joint Committee may decide to amend, inter alia, Protocol 31 thereto.

(3) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement contains provisions and arrangements concerning cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms.

(4) It is appropriate to continue the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement in actions funded from the general budget of the Union concerning 'Operation and development of the internal market, particularly in the fields of notification, certification and sectoral approximation' and 'Implementation and development of the internal market'.

(5) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended, in order to allow for this extended cooperation to continue beyond 31 December 2014.

(6) The position of the Union within the EEA Joint Committee should be based on the attached draft Decision,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, within the EEA Joint Committee on the proposed amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement shall be based on the draft Decision of that Committee attached to this Decision.

[1] OJ L 305, 30.11.1994, p. 6.
[2] OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3.

Article 2

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

Done at Luxembourg, 23 June 2015.

For the Council
The President
E. RINKĒVIČS

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DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE No …/2015

of

amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms

THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area ('the EEA Agreement'), and in particular Articles 86 and 98 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) It is appropriate to continue the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement in Union actions funded from the general budget of the European Union regarding the implementation, operation and development of the Internal Market.

(2) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this extended cooperation to continue beyond 31 December 2014,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 7 of Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement shall be amended as follows:

1. The following paragraph shall be inserted after paragraph 9:

   '10. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2015, participate in the Union actions related to the following budget lines, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015:

   — Budget line 02.03.01: "Operation and development of the internal market, particularly in the fields of notification, certification and sectoral approximation",

   — Budget line 12.02.01: "Implementation and development of the internal market".'

2. The words 'paragraphs 5 to 9' in paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be replaced by the words 'paragraphs 5 to 10'.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following the last notification under Article 103(1) of the EEA Agreement (*).

It shall apply from 1 January 2015.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published in the EEA Section of, and in the EEA Supplement to, the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, .

For the EEA Joint Committee	*The Secretaries*
The President	*to the EEA Joint Committee*

(*) [No constitutional requirements indicated.] [Constitutional requirements indicated.]