

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES

DECISION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES

No 1/2004/SC

of 5 February 2004

establishing an Office for the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, as adjusted by the Protocol Adjusting the Agreement on the European Economic Area, hereinafter referred to as the EEA Agreement,

Having regard to the Agreement on the participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area, hereinafter referred to as the EEA Enlargement Agreement,

Having regard to Protocol 38a on the EEA Financial Mechanism inserted into the EEA Agreement by the EEA Enlargement Agreement,

Having regard to the Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Community on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period 2004-2009,

Having regard to Decision of the Standing Committee of the EFTA States No 4/2003/SC of 4 December 2003 establishing an EEA Financial Mechanism Interim Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. An Office for the EEA Financial Mechanism 2004-2009 and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism is hereby established.
2. The Office shall assist in the management of the EEA Financial Mechanism and of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism.
3. The Office shall also assist in the management of the EEA Financial Instrument 1999-2003 as well as the Financial Mechanism 1994-1998.
4. The present Financial Instrument Unit in the EFTA Secretariat shall be integrated into the new Office. Regarding the EEA Financial Mechanism, the Office shall report to the EEA Financial Mechanism Interim Committee until the entering into force of the EEA Enlargement Agreement, and thereafter to the new EEA Financial Mechanism Committee.
5. Regarding the Norwegian Financial Mechanism, the Office shall report to the Norwegian authorities.

6. The Office shall administratively be part of the EFTA Secretariat. The Office will have a separate administrative budget, financed by the funds on a ratio based on their respective costs.

7. The Director of the Office shall be appointed by the Standing Committee upon nomination by the EEA Financial Mechanism Interim Committee.

Article 2

This Decision shall take immediate effect.

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, 5 February 2004.

For the Standing Committee

The Chairman

H.S.H. Prince Nikolaus of LIECHTENSTEIN

The Secretary-General

William ROSSIER
