

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE**No 39/2006****of 10 March 2006****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, as amended by the Protocol adjusting the Agreement on the European Economic Area, hereinafter referred to as 'the Agreement', and in particular Articles 86 and 98 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Protocol 31 to the Agreement was amended by Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 43/2005 of 11 March 2005 ⁽¹⁾.
- (2) Council Decision 2001/51/EC of 20 December 2000 establishing a Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001-2005) ⁽²⁾ was included in Protocol 31 to the Agreement by Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 88/2001 of 19 June 2001 ⁽³⁾.
- (3) It is appropriate to extend the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the Agreement to include Decision No 1554/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 amending Council Decision 2001/51/EC establishing a programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality and Decision No 848/2004/EC establishing a Community action programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women ⁽⁴⁾.
- (4) Protocol 31 to the Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this extended cooperation to take place with effect from 1 January 2006.
- (5) The inclusion of Decision No 1554/2005/EC in Protocol 31 to the Agreement is relevant only with regard to Council Decision 2001/51/EC,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The following shall be added in the fourth indent (Council Decision 2001/51/EC) of Article 5(8) of Protocol 31 to the Agreement:

‘ as amended by:

- **32005 D 1554**: Decision No 1554/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 (OJ L 255, 30.9.2005, p. 9).’

Article 2

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

It shall apply from 1 January 2006.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 198, 28.7.2005, p. 45.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 17, 19.1.2001, p. 22.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 238, 6.9.2001, p. 43.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 255, 30.9.2005, p. 9.

(*) No constitutional requirements indicated.

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, 10 March 2006.

For the EEA Joint Committee
The President
R. WRIGHT
