

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE**No 98/2006****of 7 July 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 72/2005 of 29 April 2005 ⁽¹⁾.
- (2) It is appropriate to extend the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the Agreement to include the preparatory action for European security research (2006).
- (3) Protocol 31 to the Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this cooperation to take place with effect from 1 January 2006,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Article 1 of Protocol 31 to the Agreement shall be amended as follows:

1. the text of paragraph 1 shall be replaced by the following:

'1. The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the implementation of the framework programmes of Community activities in the field of research and technological development referred to in paragraph 5 and from 1 January 2005 and 1 January 2006 in the activities referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively, through participation in their specific programmes.'

2. the text of paragraph 2 shall be replaced by the following:

'2. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in paragraphs 5, 9 and 10 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.'

3. the text of paragraph 6 shall be replaced by the following:

'6. Evaluation and major redirection of activities in the framework programmes of Community activities in the field of research and technological development referred to in paragraphs 5, 9 and 10 shall be governed by the procedure referred to in Article 79 (3) of the Agreement.'

4. the following paragraph shall be inserted after paragraph 9:

'10. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2006, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2006:

— **Budget line 02.04.02:** "Preparatory action for the enhancement of European security research".'

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 64.

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.

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, 7 July 2006.

For the EEA Joint Committee

The President

Oda Helen SLETNES

(*) No constitutional requirements indicated.