



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 28 October 2016
(OR. en)

13838/16

CH 11
ELARG 99
ETS 42
MI 670
SERVICES 32
SOC 653

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: Working Party on European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION of on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the free movement of persons, regarding the participation of the Republic of Croatia as a Contracting Party, following its accession to the European Union
= Adoption

1. On 1 October 2013, the Commission submitted to the Council the above proposal for a Council Decision.
2. At the meeting of the Working Party on European Free Trade Association (EFTA) of 11 November 2013, all delegations agreed in principle with the above proposal. On 16 December 2013, the Council decided to request the consent of the European Parliament, following the signature, on the basis of the draft Council Decision, as set out, after finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts, in doc. 14381/13 CH 42 ELARG 131 ETS 41 MI 832 SERVICES 48 SOC 772.
3. On 4 March 2016, Switzerland and the EU signed the Protocol as set out, after finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts, in doc. 14382/13 CH 43 ELARG 132 ETS 42 MI 833 SERVICES 49 SOC 773.

4. On 14 September 2016, the European Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the Protocol.
5. On 24 October 2016, the EFTA Working Party agreed to transmit the Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to COREPER/the Council for adoption.
6. Consequently, and subject to approval by the Committee of Permanent Representatives', it is suggested that, at one of its upcoming meetings, the Council, as an "A" item:
 - adopts the draft Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol, as set out, after finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts, in doc. 14381/13 CH 42 ELARG 131 ETS 41 MI 832 SERVICES 48 SOC 772.
