

EEE 1606/16

PROGRESS REPORT

Subject: Progress Report by the EEA Joint Committee to the 46th meeting of the EEA Council

Decision making

1. The EEA Joint Committee has adopted 211 Joint Committee Decisions (JCDs) incorporating 347 legal acts between 1 January and 28 October 2016. Since the last meeting of the EEA Council on 25 May until 28 October 2016, the EEA Joint Committee has adopted 109 JCDs incorporating 167 legal acts. In the same period of 2015, 165 JCDs incorporating 243 legal acts were adopted.
2. As of 1 November 2016, there were 517 outstanding legal acts where the compliance date in the EU had passed, compared to 432 acts on 1 May 2016. Since May 2016 therefore the overall number of outstanding legal acts has increased by 19.9%.
3. Since the last EEA Council, the EFTA side has continued to identify further actions needed to permanently reduce the number of outstanding acts and avoid their re-emergence.
4. The number of JCDs awaiting the fulfilment of constitutional requirements, where the six-month period had expired, decreased from 15 on 3 May 2016 to 11 on 1 November 2016.
5. Important decisions incorporated since the 45th meeting of the EEA Council include:
 - Decisions No 121/2016 on tachographs in road transport, repealing regulation on recording equipment in road transport and amending regulation on the harmonisation of social legislation relating to road transport.

- Decision No 127/2016 on establishing the standard form for the European Single Procurement Document.
- Decision No 155/2016 on the quality of water intended for human consumption.
- Decision No 161/2016 on technical regulations and standards on marine equipment.
- Decision No 194/2016 on online dispute resolution and alternative dispute resolution for consumer disputes.
- Decision No 198/2016-206/2016 on incorporating the regulations establishing the European Financial Supervisory Authorities (consisting of the European Banking Authority, the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority and the European Securities and Markets Authority and the European Systemic Risk Board), the Directive on Alternative Investment Fund Managers, the Regulation on Short Selling, the Regulation on Credit Rating Agencies, and the Regulation on European Market Infrastructure.

Decision shaping

6. The EEA EFTA States are participating in 14 EU programmes and 18 agencies, of which 13 were regulatory agencies and five executive agencies.
7. Since the last EEA Council, the EEA Joint Committee has taken note of EEA EFTA Comments on the following subjects, to which the EU side has provided oral and/ or written reactions:
 - The proposal on common rules in the field of civil aviation and establishing a European Union Aviation Safety Agency.
 - The proposal on the use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union.
 - The proposal on introducing a Services Passport.

Briefings in the Joint Committee

8. Briefings on the following subjects were provided in the EEA Joint Committee:

- Capital controls in Greece,
- Capital controls in Iceland,
- Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations.

Status of outstanding issues

9. The discussions on the following issues have not yet been concluded:

- the Directive on the Deposit Guarantee Scheme,
- the Third Package for the Internal Energy Market,
- the remaining part of the 2009 TELECOM package, including the Regulation establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC),
- the Third Postal Directive,
- the Regulation on Medicinal Products for Paediatric Use,
- the Marine Strategy Framework Directive,
- the Offshore Safety Directive,
- the EU legal acts in the area of organic production.

10. The Joint Committee has reiterated its determination to work towards the rapid conclusion of these issues.

Financial Mechanisms

11. The Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism for the 2014-2021 period, with a total commitment of 1548.1 million euro, was ratified by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and has been applied provisionally as of 1 August 2016. The Agreement on the Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the 2014-2021 period, with a total commitment of 1253.7 million euro, was ratified by Norway and has been applied provisionally as of 1 July 2016.
 12. For the period 2009-2014, 993.5 million euro has been set aside under the EEA Financial Mechanism and an additional 804.6 million euro under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. Programmes and projects under both Mechanisms may be implemented until 2016.
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