



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 4 March 2014
(OR. en)**

6879/14

ATO 18

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION issuing directives to the Commission for the negotiation of amendments to the Convention on Nuclear Safety in the framework of the Sixth Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to that Convention

COUNCIL DECISION

of ...

**issuing directives to the Commission for the negotiation
of amendments to the Convention on Nuclear Safety
in the framework of the Sixth Review Meeting
of the Contracting Parties to that Convention**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular the second paragraph of Article 101 thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 2(h) of the Treaty provides for the establishment, with other countries and international organisations, of such relations as will foster progress in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
- (2) The Community is a Contracting Party to the Convention on Nuclear Safety ("the Convention") which was adopted on 17 June 1994 by a diplomatic conference convened by the International Atomic Energy Agency ("IAEA") at its headquarters from 14 to 17 June 1994 and which entered into force on 24 October 1996. The Community acceded to the Convention by means of Commission Decision 1999/819/Euratom¹. The Convention entered into force for the Community on 30 April 2000.
- (3) All Member States of the Community are also Contracting Parties to the Convention.
- (4) The Convention has not been amended since its entry into force in 1996 and would need to be updated so as to bring it in line with the latest safety standards and to strengthen its effectiveness.

¹ Commission Decision 1999/819/Euratom of 16 November 1999 concerning the accession to the 1994 Convention on Nuclear Safety by the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 318, 11.12. 1999, p. 20).

- (5) The Contracting Parties to the Convention held an extraordinary meeting in August 2012 and decided, in response to the necessity to further improve the overall Convention review process, to establish an 'effectiveness and transparency' working group, open to all Contracting Parties. That working group is entrusted with the task of reporting to the next review meeting on a list of actions to strengthen the Convention and on proposals to amend it, where necessary.
- (6) The 'effectiveness and transparency' working group delivered its final report containing a recapitulatory list of 68 actions, based on which the Contracting Parties to the Convention may submit proposals.
- (7) In accordance with Article 32(1) of the Convention, any Contracting Party may propose amendments to the Convention to the IAEA at least ninety days before the meeting at which they are submitted for consideration.
- (8) The Community should therefore be fully represented in the negotiating process for the amendment of the Convention, particularly with a view to updating the provisions of the Convention, strengthening its effectiveness and ensuring that any amendments to the Convention are compatible with the objectives and the provisions of the Treaty and secondary legislation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Commission is hereby authorised to negotiate, on behalf of the Community, during the Sixth Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety, with regard to matters falling within the Community's competence, the amendments to the text of the Convention and to the Convention procedures and practices, in conformity with the directives set out in the Addendum.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

For the Council

The President
