



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 29 November 2013  
(OR. en)**

**15581/13  
EXT 1**

**AELE 66  
EEE 45  
CH 47**

**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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**From:** Working Party on European Free Trade Association (EFTA)  
**To:** Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  
**On:** 31 October 2013

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**Subject:** Draft Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States Meeting within the Council on an Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between the President of the Council of the European Union and the Swiss Federal Council of 27 February 2006 (Swiss Financial Contribution for the benefit of Croatia)

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Delegations will find attached an extract from document 15581/13 AELE 66 EEE 45 CH 47.

**Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States Meeting within the Council on an Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding between the President of the Council of the European Union and the Swiss Federal Council  
of 27 February 2006**

**(Swiss Financial Contribution for the benefit of Croatia)**

The Council of the European Union and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council:

1. recall their conclusions of 27 February 2006<sup>1</sup> on a Memorandum of Understanding, annexed thereto, which envisaged a Swiss financial contribution for the benefit of the Member States which acceded to the European Union in 2004;
2. recall their conclusions of 14 May 2008<sup>2</sup> on an Addendum to the above-mentioned Memorandum of Understanding, which envisaged an additional financial contribution of Switzerland for the benefit of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania, following their accession to the EU in 2007;
3. recall their conclusions of 20 December 2012<sup>3</sup>, in which they invited the Commission, in close cooperation with the Presidency of the Council, to engage in the necessary discussions with the Swiss Federal Council in view of agreeing, as soon as Croatia had acceded to the European Union, on a financial contribution to Croatia;

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 6283/06.

<sup>2</sup> Doc. 8681/08.

<sup>3</sup> Doc. 17723/12 RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED.

4. take note with satisfaction that these discussions have been successfully concluded, and that the Swiss Federal Council intends to propose to the Swiss Parliament the approval of additional funds amounting to 45 million CHF for a contribution to Croatia, according to the guidelines set out in the attached Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding of 27 February 2006;
5. invite Croatia, in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding, as adapted by the attached Addendum, to conclude a bilateral agreement with the Swiss Confederation on the arrangements for the Swiss financial contribution in question;
6. charge the President of the Council to sign the attached Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding with the authorities of the Swiss Federal Council;
7. confirm that the Commission is mandated, within the context of the above-mentioned bilateral arrangements and the Memorandum of Understanding, as adapted by the Addendum in the annex, to manage information, co-ordination and follow-up tasks and note the agreement of the Commission in this regard, which the Commission has wished to confirm by signing the Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding.

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**ADDENDUM OF [...] TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE SWISS  
FEDERAL COUNCIL ON A SWISS FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF 27 FEBRUARY  
2006**

The Memorandum of Understanding between the President of the Council of the European Union and the Swiss Federal Council of 27 February 2006 is adapted in order to take into account the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union;

**1. The additional Swiss contribution**

In addition to the contribution set out in point 1 of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Swiss Federal Council accepts to negotiate with the Republic of Croatia an agreement on the arrangements for a Swiss contribution of 45 million Swiss francs, calculated for a period of five years, starting from the approval of these funds by the Swiss Parliament. The Swiss Federal Council intends to commit the contribution until 31 May 2017, i.e. before the expiry of the Swiss legal basis (Federal Act of 24 March 2006 on Cooperation with the States of Eastern Europe).

**2. Implementation of the additional Swiss contribution**

As regards point 8 of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Swiss Federal Council accepts to propose that the Swiss Parliament approves additional funding amounting to 45 million Swiss francs for the implementation of the Swiss contribution to the Republic of Croatia, to start in 2014.

**3. Other guidelines**

The other guidelines set out in the Memorandum of Understanding and its Annex apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Done in two originals at ..... on.....

For the Swiss Federal Council

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For the Presidency of the Council of the European Union

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For the European Commission

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