



Council of the
European Union

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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject:	COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods and the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on common transit concerning decisions as regards invitations to the Republic of Serbia to accede to the Convention on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods and the Convention on a common transit procedure
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COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/...

of ...

**on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union
within the EU-EFTA Joint Committee
on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods
and the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on common transit
concerning decisions as regards invitations to the Republic of Serbia
to accede to the Convention
on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods
and the Convention on a common transit procedure**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(4) in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 11(3) of the Convention between the European Economic Community, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, the Republic of Iceland, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Swiss Confederation on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods¹ ('the Convention on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods') empowers the EU-EFTA Joint Committee set up by that Convention to adopt, by decision, invitations to third countries within the meaning of Article 1(2) to accede to that Convention in accordance with its Article 11a.
- (2) Article 15(3) of the Convention between the European Economic Community, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, the Republic of Iceland, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Swiss Confederation, on a common transit procedure² ('the Convention on a common transit procedure') empowers the EU-EFTA Joint Committee set up by that Convention to adopt by decision invitations to third countries within the meaning of Article 3(1)(c) to accede to that Convention in accordance with its Article 15a.
- (3) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on behalf of the Union within those Joint Committees as regards the decisions to invite the Republic of Serbia to accede to those Conventions.
- (4) The position of the Union within those Joint Committees should therefore be based on the two attached draft Decisions,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

¹ OJ L 134, 22.5.1987, p. 2.

² OJ L 226, 13.8.1987, p. 2.

Article 1

The position to be adopted on behalf of the Union within the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods as regards an invitation to the Republic of Serbia to accede to the Convention on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods shall be based on the draft Decision of that Joint Committee attached to this Decision.

Article 2

The position to be adopted on behalf of the Union within the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on common transit as regards an invitation to the Republic of Serbia to accede to the Convention on a common transit procedure shall be based on the draft Decision of that Joint Committee attached to this Decision.

Article 3

Once the technical conditions for accession have been fulfilled by the Republic of Serbia, the Union representative in the Joint Committees referred to in Articles 1 and 2 respectively shall propose the decisions to invite the Republic of Serbia to accede to the Conventions and vote on those decisions in accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of this Decision.

Article 4

After its adoption, the Decision of the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods and the Decision of the EU-EFTA Joint Committee on common transit shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 5

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

DRAFT

**Decision No .../2015
of the EU-EFTA Joint Committee
on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods
of ...**

**as regards invitation to the Republic of Serbia
to accede to the Convention of 20 May 1987
on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods**

THE EU-EFTA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Convention of 20 May 1987 on the simplification of formalities in trade in goods¹ ('the Convention'), and in particular Article 11(3) thereof,

¹ OJ L 134, 22.5.1987, p. 2.

Whereas:

- (1) The exchange of goods with the Republic of Serbia would be facilitated by a simplification of formalities which affect the trade in goods between the Republic of Serbia and the European Union, the Republic of Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Kingdom of Norway, the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Turkey.
- (2) With a view to achieving such facilitation, it is appropriate to invite the Republic of Serbia to accede to the Convention,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In accordance with Article 11a of the Convention, the Republic of Serbia shall be invited to accede to the Convention as from 1 December 2015.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at ...,

*For the EU-EFTA Joint Committee
The President*

DRAFT

**Decision No .../2015
of the EU-EFTA Joint Committee
on common transit**

of ...

**as regards invitation to the Republic of Serbia
to accede to the Convention of 20 May 1987
on a common transit procedure**

THE EU-EFTA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure¹ ('the Convention'), and in particular Article 15(3)(e) thereof,

¹ OJ L 226, 13.8.1987, p. 2.

Whereas:

- (1) The promotion of trade with the Republic of Serbia would be facilitated by a common transit procedure for goods transported between the Republic of Serbia and the European Union, the Republic of Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Kingdom of Norway, the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Turkey.
- (2) With a view to achieving such a procedure, it is appropriate to invite the Republic of Serbia to accede to the Convention,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In accordance with Article 15a of the Convention, the Republic of Serbia shall be invited to accede to the Convention as from 1 December 2015.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at ...,

*For the EU-EFTA Joint Committee
The President*
