

Joint statement by European Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič and the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Affairs, the Rt Hon James Cleverly MP, 3 July 2023

The European Union and the United Kingdom today held a meeting of the Withdrawal Agreement Joint Committee.

In supervising and facilitating the implementation of the Agreement, the Joint Committee took note of the steps taken by both sides, including on the Windsor Framework and citizens' rights.

On citizens' rights, both sides agreed on the importance and priority of the issues, and to continue to work collaboratively to ensure that beneficiaries under the Withdrawal Agreement will be able to fully enjoy their rights through the implementation of the Agreement.

The European Union and the United Kingdom agreed to continue meeting regularly to monitor and ensure the full implementation of all the elements of the Framework in a timely way.

The Joint Committee adopted a decision adding two newly adopted Union acts on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (agri-foods) and medicines to Annex 2 to the Windsor Framework¹. The two Union acts embed the joint solutions agreed by the European Union and the United Kingdom announced at Windsor on 27 February. The Joint Committee also adopted a decision to amend Part I of Annex I to the Agreement by amending the list of recommendations and decisions of the Administrative Commission for the Coordination of Social Security Systems by adding two decisions which are not listed in Part I of Annex I of the Agreement and by removing three decisions which have been replaced by the two new decisions².

Finally, the co-chairs adopted the Withdrawal Agreement Annual Report for the year 2022.

The Vice-President and the Foreign Secretary will remain in close and regular contact. They looked forward to the exchange of views with members of the EU-UK Parliamentary Partnership Assembly on the broader EU-UK partnership later today, reaffirming their desire to exploit fully the potential of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement, and maximise the potential of the relationship between the EU and the UK in ways that benefit both parties.

¹ Decision No 2/2023 of the Joint Committee established by the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of 3 July 2023 adding two newly adopted Union acts to Annex 2 to the Windsor Framework.

² Decision No 3/2023 of the Joint Committee amending Part I of Annex I to the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.