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TRANS 445

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of a Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/

of ...

**on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union,
of a Protocol to the Agreement
on the international occasional carriage of passengers
by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement)
regarding the international regular
and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 91, in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Council Decision (EU) 2020/ ...¹⁺ of ..., the Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus (the 'Protocol') was signed on ... 2020, subject to its conclusion at a later date.
- (2) The Protocol should facilitate the provision of the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus between the Contracting Parties to the Interbus Agreement ('Contracting Parties') and therefore give rise to improved passenger transport links between them.
- (3) In order to facilitate the application of the Protocol, and in particular the operation of the Joint Committee established by Article 18 thereof, the Protocol largely mirrors the provisions established by the Interbus Agreement.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2020/... on the signing of a Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus (OJ L ..., ..., p. ...).

⁺ OJ: Please insert in the text the number of the Decision contained in document ST 11438/20 and insert the number, date, and OJ reference of that Decision in the footnote 1.

- (4) In order for its benefits not to be excessively delayed, the Protocol provides for its entry into force, for the Contracting Parties that have signed and approved or ratified it, when three Contracting Parties, including the Union, have signed and approved or ratified it.
- (5) Therefore, the Protocol should be approved on behalf of the Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Protocol to the Agreement on the international occasional carriage of passengers by coach and bus (Interbus Agreement) regarding the international regular and special regular carriage of passengers by coach and bus, that replaces the Protocol to the Interbus Agreement which was open for signature between 16 July 2018 and 16 April 2019, is hereby approved on behalf of the Union¹⁺.

Article 2

The President of the Council shall designate the person(s) empowered to deposit, on behalf of the Union, the instrument of approval or ratification provided for in Article 20(2) of the Protocol, in order to express the consent of the Union to be bound by the Protocol.

¹ The text of the Protocol is published in[insert OJ reference].

⁺ Delegations: see document st11442/20.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption¹.

Done at ...,

For the Council

The President

¹ The date of entry into force of the Protocol will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.