



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 16 March 2021
(OR. en)

6923/21

CSDP/PSDC 92
CFSP/PESC 223
COAFR 64
CONUN 25
ATALANTA 4
PSC DEC 5

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1826 (ATALANTA/2/2021)

**POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION
(CFSP) 2021/...**

of ...

**on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for
the European Union military operation
to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression
of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta)
and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2020/1826
(ATALANTA/2/2021)**

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 38 thereof,

Having regard to Council Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP of 10 November 2008 on a European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast¹, and in particular Article 6(1) thereof,

¹ OJ L 301, 12.11.2008, p. 33.

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 6(1) of Joint Action 2008/851/CFSP, the Council authorised the Political and Security Committee (PSC) to take the relevant decisions on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast ('Atalanta').
- (2) On 1 December 2020, the PSC adopted Decision (CFSP) 2020/1826¹ appointing Captain Diogo ARROTEIA as EU Force Commander for Atalanta.
- (3) The EU Operation Commander has recommended the appointment of Captain Luca Pasquale ESPOSITO as the new EU Force Commander as from 17 March 2021. The Italian authorities have indicated that Captain Luca Pasquale ESPOSITO will be promoted to Rear Admiral upon his appointment as EU Force Commander.
- (4) On 9 March 2021, the EU Military Committee supported that recommendation.
- (5) Decision (CFSP) 2020/1826 should therefore be repealed.
- (6) In accordance with Article 5 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark does not participate in the elaboration and the implementation of decisions and actions of the Union which have defence implications,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

¹ Political and Security Committee Decision (CFSP) 2020/1826 of 1 December 2020 on the appointment of the EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2020/895 (ATALANTA/3/2020) (OJ L 406, 3.12.2020, p. 60).

Article 1

Rear Admiral Luca Pasquale ESPOSITO is hereby appointed EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta) as from 17 March 2021.

Article 2

Decision (CFSP) 2020/1826 is hereby repealed.

Article 3

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

It shall apply from 17 March 2021.

Done at Brussels, xxx 2021.

*For the Political and Security Committee
The Chairperson*
