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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	26 June 2026
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2026) 315 final
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part as regards the provisions to implement the Protocol on veterinary matters supplementing the Agreement

Delegations will find attached document COM(2026) 315 final.

Encl.: COM(2026) 315 final



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 26.6.2026
COM(2026) 315 final

2026/0174 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part as regards the provisions to implement the Protocol on veterinary matters supplementing the Agreement

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

The Agreement between the European Community , of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part¹ ('the Agreement') aims to promote the expansion of reciprocal trade, foster economic activity, improve living and employment conditions, increase productivity and financial stability, provide fair conditions for trade competition, and contribute to the removal of trade barriers and encourage the harmonious development and expansion of world trade. The Agreement entered into force on 1 January 1997. To facilitate bilateral trade in animals and animal products, the Contracting Parties further concluded a Protocol on Veterinary Matters supplementing the Agreement² (the Protocol), forming an integral part of the Agreement. The Protocol entered into force on 1 January 2000.

The Joint Committee established by Article 31 of the Agreement, is responsible for the administration of the Agreement and ensures its proper implementation. The Joint Committee acts by mutual agreement.

In accordance with Article 2 of the Protocol, the Joint Committee is empowered to draw up a list of the Community veterinary provisions to be applied by the Faroe Islands, and conditions for the application of these provisions. Through its Decision 1/2001³ the Joint Committee laid down the provisions to implement the Protocol. A veterinary sub-group under the Joint Committee set up by the Protocol is responsible to make recommendations to the Joint Committee in view of updating or amending those provisions.

Decision 1/2001 was last updated in 2008 by Decision No 1/2008⁴ of the Joint Committee. Since that update, the relevant Union acquis has continued to evolve, in particular through the adoption of new legislative acts and amendments to existing acts falling within the scope of the Protocol.

In order to ensure the continued correct and uniform application of the Protocol, it is therefore necessary to update provisions to implement the Protocol so as to reflect the current state of the applicable Union acquis.

In addition, there is a need to improve the text of the provisions to implement the Protocol to offer more clarity on the commodities within its scope, the Union acts applied by the Faroe Islands and the applicable movement rules.

The present proposal therefore aims to repeal and replace Decision 1/2001 with a new Decision of the Joint Committee, introducing an up-to-date list of the relevant Union legislation to be applied by the Faroe Islands and setting out implementing provisions with enhanced clarity.

¹ [OJ L 53, 22.2.1997, p. 2-135](#)

² [OJ L 305, 30.11.1999, p. 26](#)

³ [OJ L 46, 16.02.2001 p. 24-29](#)

⁴ [OJ L 24, 28.1.2009, p. 30-33](#)

2. POSITION TO BE TAKEN ON THE UNION'S BEHALF

In order to establish the position to be taken on behalf of the Union within the Joint Committee established by the Agreement, a Council Decision pursuant to Article 218(9) TFEU is required.

The draft Joint Committee Decision attached to the present proposal repeals and replaces Decision 1/2001. The proposed Decision lists the applicable Union rules that the Faroe Islands shall apply, for the entry of animals, products of animal origin and animal by-products from third countries and defines that for those commodities the Union rules for their movement from one Member State into another shall apply to movements from the Union to the Faroe Islands. Furthermore, the proposed Decision lists the commodities for which the Faroe Islands shall apply the applicable Union rules and establishes that for movements of those listed commodities from the Faroe Islands to the Union, the Union rules for their movement from one Member State into another shall apply.

3. LEGAL ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL

Summary of the proposed action

This is a proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the Union within the Joint Committee established by the Agreement, which should be based on the draft Joint Committee Decision in annex.

Legal Basis

Article 207 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof.

Choice of the instrument

Article 218(9) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that a Council Decision establishes the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union in a body set up by an agreement, when that body is called upon to adopt decisions having legal effects.

4. PUBLICATION OF THE ENVISAGED ACT

As the act of the Joint Committee will amend the provisions to implement the Veterinary protocol, it is appropriate to publish it in the *Official Journal of the European Union* after its adoption.

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part as regards the provisions to implement the Protocol on veterinary matters supplementing the Agreement

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) The Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part ('the Agreement') was concluded by the Union by Council Decision [97/126/EC](#)¹ and entered into force on 1 January 1997.
- (2) The Protocol on veterinary matters supplementing the Agreement ('the Protocol') was concluded by the Union by Council Decision [1999/778/EC](#) and entered into force on 1 January 2000.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 34 of the Agreement and Article 2 of the Protocol, the Joint Committee established by Article 31 of that Agreement ('Joint Committee') decides on the provisions to implement the Protocol.
- (4) A veterinary subgroup under the Joint Committee set up in Article 2 of the Protocol, shall make recommendations to the Joint Committee with a view to amending or updating the legislation in question.
- (5) Through its Decision [1/2001](#)² the Joint Committee laid down the provisions to implement the Protocol.
- (6) Based on the recommendations of the veterinary subgroup, the Joint Committee, during its next meeting, is to adopt a decision repealing and replacing the provisions to implement the Protocol.
- (7) The new provisions to implement the Protocol aim to introduce an up-to-date list of the relevant Union legislation to be applied by the Faroe Islands and enhance clarity over the commodities covered.
- (8) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on the Union's behalf in the Joint Committee as the Decision of the Joint Committee will be binding on the Union.

¹ [OJ L 53, 22.2.1997, p. 1-136](#)

² [OJ L 46, 16.02.2001 p. 24-29](#)

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be taken on the Union's behalf in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part, as regards amending the provisions to implement the Protocol on veterinary matters supplementing the Agreement shall be based on the draft decision of the Joint Committee attached to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council
The President*