



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 24.4.2006
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Draft

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE
amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement,
on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms

- Draft common position of the Community -
(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement contains specific provisions on the cooperation between the Community and the EEA EFTA States outside the four freedoms.
2. The attached draft Decision of the EEA Joint Committee aims to modify Protocol 31 to extend cooperation in the field of Information Services and security of information systems. It provides a framework for cooperation and sets out the modalities for participation of the EEA EFTA States in the Community programmes and actions in this field, and concerns

32005 D 2113: Decision No 2113/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2005, amending Decision No 2256/2003/EC in view of the extension of the programme in 2006 for the dissemination of good practices and monitoring ICT take-up.

It extends in 2006 the multiannual programme (originally adopted for 2003-2005) for the monitoring of the eEurope 2005 action plan, dissemination of good practices and the improvement of network and information security (MODINIS), in which the EEA EFTA States already participate.

3. Article 1.3(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2894/94 concerning the arrangements for implementing the EEA Agreement envisages that the Council establish the Community position for such Decisions on a proposal from the Commission.
4. The draft decision of the EEA Joint Committee is submitted for the approval of the Council, after which the Commission will put forward the position of the Community in the EEA Joint Committee at the earliest possible occasion.

Draft

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE

**amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement,
on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms**

THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, as amended by the Protocol adjusting the Agreement on the European Economic Area, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Agreement’, and in particular Articles 86 and 98 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Protocol 31 to the Agreement was amended by Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No ... of ...¹.
- (2) It is appropriate to extend the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the Agreement to include Decision No 2113/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2005 amending Decision No 2256/2003/EC with a view to extension of the programme in 2006 for the dissemination of good practices and monitoring of the take-up of information and communication technologies (ITCs)².
- (3) Protocol 31 to the Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this extended cooperation to take place from 1 January 2006,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The following sub-indent shall be added in the ninth indent of Article 2(5) (Decision No 2256/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council) of Protocol 31 to the Agreement:

- ‘ - **32005 D 2113**: Decision No 2113/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2005 (OJ L 344, 27.12.2005, p. 34).’

¹ OJ L ...

² OJ L 344, 27.12.2005, p. 34.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following the last notification to the EEA Joint Committee under Article 103(1) of the Agreement*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2006.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published in the EEA Section of, and in the EEA Supplement to, the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels,

*For the EEA Joint Committee
The President*

*The Secretaries
to the EEA Joint Committee*

* [Constitutional requirements indicated.][No constitutional requirements indicated.]