



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 13.5.2003
SEC(2003) 533 final

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 education, training and youth. It provides a framework for cooperation and sets out the modalities for full participation of the EEA EFTA States in the Community programmes and actions in this field:
 - 32003 D 0291: Decision No 291/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 February 2003 establishing the European Year of Education through Sport 2004 (OJ L 43, 18.2.2003, p. 1).
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. The Commission would hope to be able to put forward the position of the Community in the EEA Joint Committee in June 2003.

Draft

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE
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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 291/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 February 2003 establishing the European Year of Education through Sport 2004².
- (3) Protocol 31 to the Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this extended cooperation to take place from 1 January 2003,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Article 4 (Education, training and youth) of Protocol 31 to the Agreement shall be amended as follows:

1. The following point shall be inserted after point 2f (Preparatory actions for cooperation in the fields of education and of youth policy):

‘2g. The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2003, participate in the following action:

 - 32003 D 0219: Decision No 219/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 February 2003 establishing the European Year of Education through Sport 2004 (OJ L 43, 18.2.2003, p. 1).’
2. In point 3, the words ‘2e and 2f’ shall be replaced by the words ‘2e, 2f and 2g’.

¹ OJL ...

² OJL 43, 18.2.2003, p. 1.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on.... , provided that all the notifications under Article 103(1) of the Agreement have been made to the EEA Joint Committee* .

It shall apply from 1 January 2003.

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*

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