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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, within the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms (GOVSATCOM and Secure Connectivity)

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2025/...

of

**on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union,
within the EEA Joint Committee
concerning an amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement,
on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms
(GOVSATCOM and Secure Connectivity)**

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 189(2) in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2894/94 of 28 November 1994 concerning arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area¹, and in particular Article 1(3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

¹ OJ L 305, 30.11.1994, p. 6, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1994/2894/oj>.

Whereas:

- (1) The Agreement on the European Economic Area² ('the EEA Agreement') entered into force on 1 January 1994.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 98 of the EEA Agreement, the EEA Joint Committee may decide to amend, inter alia, Protocol 31 on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms ('Protocol 31') to the EEA Agreement.
- (3) It is appropriate to extend the participation rights of the EEA European Free Trade Association States, agreed by the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement in Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 319/2021³, to the Governmental Satellite Communication (GOVSATCOM) component of the Union Space Programme, and to extend the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement to include Regulation (EU) 2023/588 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴.

² OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_international/1994/1/oj.

³ Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 319/2021 of 29 October 2021 amending Protocol 31 on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms and Protocol 37 containing the list provided for in Article 101 to the EEA Agreement (OJ L, 2024/526, 29.2.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/526/oj>).

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2023/588 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2023 establishing the Union Secure Connectivity Programme for the period 2023-2027 (OJ L 79, 17.3.2023, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/588/oj>).

- (4) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (5) The position of the Union within the EEA Joint Committee should therefore be based on the attached draft Decision,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be adopted, on behalf of the Union, within the EEA Joint Committee on the proposed amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms, shall be based on the draft Decision of the EEA Joint Committee attached to this Decision.

Article 2

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

Done at ..., ...

For the Council
The President
