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PROPOSAL

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	20 August 2014
To:	Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2014) 523 ANNEX
Subject:	ANNEX DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE No .../2014 of amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms to the Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, in the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms (Budget Lines 02.03.01 and 12.02.01)

Delegations will find attached document COM(2014) 523 ANNEX.

Encl.: COM(2014) 523 ANNEX



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 19.8.2014
COM(2014) 523 final

ANNEX 1

ANNEX

**DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE No .../2014
of
amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement,
on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms**

to the

Proposal for a Council Decision

**on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union,
in the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Protocol 31 to the EEA
Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms
(Budget Lines 02.03.01 and 12.02.01)**

ANNEX

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE No .../2014

of

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 (“the EEA Agreement”), and in particular Articles 86 and 98 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) It is appropriate to continue the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement in Union actions funded from the general budget of the European Union regarding the implementation, operation and development of the Internal Market.
- (2) It is appropriate that this cooperation should continue beyond 31 December 2013 even if this Decision is adopted, or if the fulfilment of constitutional requirements for this Decision, if any, is notified after 10 July 2014.
- (3) Entities established in the EFTA States should be entitled to participate in activities which start before the entry into force of this Decision. The costs incurred for such activities, the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2014, may be considered eligible under the same conditions as those applicable to costs incurred by entities established in the EU Member States provided that this Decision enters into force before the end of the action concerned.
- (4) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this extended cooperation to continue beyond 31 December 2013,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 7 of Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement shall be amended as follows:

1. The following paragraph is inserted after paragraph 8:
 - ‘9. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2014, participate in the Union actions related to the following budget lines, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014:
 - **Budget line 02.03.01:** “Operation and development of the internal market, particularly in the fields of notification, certification and sectoral approximation”,

- **Budget line 12.02.01:** “Implementation and development of the internal market”.

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2014, may be considered eligible as from the beginning of the action under the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No .../2014 of ... enters into force before the end of the action.’

2. The words “paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8” in paragraphs 3 and 4 are replaced by the words “paragraphs 5 to 9”.

Article 2

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

It shall apply from 1 January 2014.

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.]