

EEE 1607/17

REPORT

Subject: Progress report by the EEA Joint Committee to the 48th meeting of the EEA Council

Decision making

1. The EEA Joint Committee has adopted 104 Joint Committee Decisions (JCDs) incorporating 193 legal acts since the EEA Council of 16 May 2017. In the period from 1 January to 1 November 2017, the EEA Joint Committee has adopted 207 JCDs incorporating 414 legal acts. In the same period of 2016, 211 JCDs incorporating 347 legal acts were adopted.
2. As of 31 October 2017, there were 540 outstanding legal acts where the compliance date in the EU had passed, compared to 501 acts on 5 May 2017. Since May 2017 therefore the overall number of outstanding legal acts has increased by 7.8%.
3. The number of JCDs awaiting the fulfilment of constitutional requirements, where the six-month period had expired, decreased from 12 on 1 May 2017 to 9 on 31 October 2017.
4. Important decisions incorporated since the 47th meeting of the EEA Council include:
 - Decision No 105/2017 on rules for wholesale roaming markets,
 - Decision No 104/2017 on innovative technologies for reducing CO₂ emissions from light commercial vehicles,

- Decision Nos 109/2017 and 111/2017 on setting emission performance standards for new passenger cars and new light commercial vehicles,
- Decision No 186/2017 on collective management of copyright and related rights,
- Decision No 187/2017 on package travel and linked travel arrangements,
- Decision No 208/2017 on the preparatory action on defence research.

Decision shaping

5. The EEA EFTA States are participating in 14 EU programmes and 21 agencies, of which 16 are regulatory agencies and five executive agencies.
6. Since the last EEA Council, the EEA Joint Committee has taken note of EEA EFTA Comments on the following subjects, to which the EU side has provided oral and/ or written reactions:
 - The proposal of a regulation establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (Connectivity Package),
 - The respect for private life and the protection of personal data in electronic communications (ePrivacy),
 - The proposed legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps,
 - The approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions as regards the accessibility requirements for products and services (European Accessibility Act),
 - The proposal to empower national competition authorities to be more effective enforcers,
 - The Commission consultation on the future of the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs),
 - The provision of audiovisual media services

Briefings in the Joint Committee

7. Briefings on capital controls in Iceland and the EU were provided in the EEA Joint Committee.

Status of outstanding issues

8. The discussions on the following issues have not yet been concluded:
 - the Directive on the Deposit Guarantee Scheme,
 - the Directive and Regulation on Capital Requirements (CRD IV and CRR), EMIR level 2 priority acts, and UCITS V,
 - Ship Inspection and Survey Organizations,
 - the remaining part of the 2009 TELECOM package, including the Regulation establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC),
 - the Third Postal Directive,
9. The Joint Committee has reiterated its determination to work towards the rapid conclusion of these issues.

Financial Mechanisms

10. The Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism for the 2014-2021 period, with a total commitment of 1548.1 million euro, and the Agreement on the Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the 2014-2021 period, with a total commitment of 1253.7 million euro, was ratified by all contracting parties and entered into force 1 September 2017.
11. Memoranda of Understanding on the EEA Grants have been signed with Romania, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Malta, Estonia, Portugal, the Czech Republic, and Greece.

12. For the period 2009-2014, 993.5 million euro has been set aside under the EEA Financial Mechanism and an additional 804.6 million euro under the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. Programmes and projects under both Mechanisms may be implemented until 2017.
-