

PROTOCOL 31

ON COOPERATION IN SPECIFIC FIELDS OUTSIDE THE FOUR FREEDOMS

Article 1^{1}

Research and technological development

- 1.^{2} The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the implementation of the framework programmes of Community activities in the field of research and technological development referred to in paragraph 5 and from 1 January 2005 and 1 January 2006 in the activities referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively, through participation in their specific programmes.
- 2.^{3} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in paragraphs 5, 9 and 10 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.
3. The EFTA States shall participate fully in all the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to in paragraph 5.
- 4.^{4} Given the particular nature of the cooperation foreseen in the fields of research, innovation and technological development, representatives of the EFTA States shall in addition be associated with the work of the European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) and other Union committees which the European Commission consults in these fields, to the extent necessary for the good functioning of that cooperation.
5. The following Community acts, as well as acts deriving there from, are the object of this Article:
 - **390 D 0221:** Council Decision 90/221/EEC/Euratom of 23 April 1990 concerning the framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1990 to 1994) (OJ No L 117, 8.5.1990, p. 28),
 - **394 D 1110:** Decision No 1110/94/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 April 1994 concerning the fourth framework programme of the European Community activities in the field of research and technological development and demonstration (1994 to 1998) (OJ No L 126, 18.5.1994, p. 1), as amended by:
 - ^{5} **396 D 0616:** Decision No 616/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 March 1996 (OJ L 86, 4.4.1996, p. 69),
 - ^{6} **397 D 2535:** Decision No 2535/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 1 December 1997 (OJ L 347, 18.12.1997, p. 1).

^{1} This article, inserted by Decision No 10/94 (OJ L 253, 29.9.1994, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 36, 29.9.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former article 1.

^{2} Text replaced by Decision No 72/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 46, 15.9.2005, p. 40), e.i.f. 30.4.2005 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 98/2006 (OJ L 289, 19.10.2006, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 52, 19.10.2006, p. 40), e.i.f. 8.7.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{3} Text replaced by Decision No 72/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 46, 15.9.2005, p. 40), e.i.f. 30.4.2005 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 98/2006 (OJ L 289, 19.10.2006, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 52, 19.10.2006, p. 40), e.i.f. 8.7.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{4} Text replaced by Decision No 29/2020 (OJ L 49, 16.2.2023, p. 60 and EEA Supplement No 13, 16.2.2023, p. 56), e.i.f. 8.2.2020.

^{5} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 54/98 (OJ L 30, 4.2.1999, p. 57 and EEA Supplement No 6, 4.2.1999, p. 279), e.i.f. 4.6.1998.

^{6} Indent added by Decision No 54/98 (OJ L 30, 4.2.1999, p. 57 and EEA Supplement No 6, 4.2.1999, p. 279), e.i.f. 4.6.1998.

- {⁷} **399 D 0182:** Decision No 182/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 1998 concerning the fifth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (1998 to 2002) (OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 1).

- {⁸} **32002 D 1513:** Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2002 concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities, contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002-2006) (OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1), as amended by:

- {⁹} **32004 D 0786:** Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7).

- {¹⁰} **32006 D 1982:** Decision No 1982/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007-2013) (OJ L 412, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

- {¹¹} **2013 R 1291:** Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) and repealing Decision No 1982/2006/EC (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 104).

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

- {¹²} **2021 R 0697:** Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the European Defence Fund and repealing Regulation (EU) 2018/1092 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 149).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 228/2021 of 28 July 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Iceland and Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

- {¹³} **2021 R 0695:** Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 263/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

{⁷} Indent added by Decision No 27/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 271), e.i.f. 30.6.1999.

{⁸} Indent added by Decision No 154/2002 (OJ L 19, 23.1.2003, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 4, 23.1.2003, p. 35), e.i.f. 10.1.2003.

{⁹} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{¹⁰} Indent added by Decision No 63/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 1), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{¹¹} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 109/2014 (OJ L 310, 30.10.2014, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 63, 30.10.2014, p. 68), e.i.f. 17.5.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{¹²} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 228/2021 (OJ L, 2024/269, 8.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 13, 8.2.2024, p. 70), e.i.f. 29.7.2021, it shall apply from 1.1.2021.

{¹³} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 263/2021 (OJ L, 2024/507, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 67), e.i.f. 25.9.2021, it shall apply from 1.1.2021.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

6.{¹⁴} Evaluation and major direction of activities in the framework programmes of Union activities in the field of research and technological development referred to in paragraphs 5, 8a, 8c, 9 and 10 shall be governed by the procedure referred to in Article 79(3) of the Agreement.

7. The Agreement shall be without prejudice, on the one hand, to the bilateral cooperation taking place under the framework programme for Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1987 to 1991)(¹) and, on the other hand, in so far as they concern cooperation which is not covered by the Agreement, to the bilateral framework agreements for scientific and technical cooperation between the Community and the EFTA States.

(¹) 387 D 0516: Council Decision 87/516/Euratom/EEC of 28 September 1987 (OJ No L 302, 24.10.1987, p. 1)

8.{¹⁵} (a) The EFTA States shall fully participate in the European GNSS Agency, hereinafter referred to as the “Agency”, as set up by the following Union act:

- **32010 R 0912:** Regulation (EU) No 912/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 setting up the European GNSS Agency, repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1321/2004 on the establishment of structures for the management of the European satellite radio navigation programmes and amending Regulation (EC) No 683/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 276, 20.10.2010, p. 11), as amended by:

-{¹⁶} **32014 R 0512:** Regulation (EU) No 512/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 (OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 72).

- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.
- (c) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Administrative Board of the Agency and in the Security Accreditation Board of the Agency.
- (d) The Agency shall have legal personality. It shall enjoy in all the States of the Contracting Parties the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under their law.
- (e) The EFTA States shall apply to the Agency the Protocol of Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities.
- (f) By way of derogation from Article 12(2)(a) of the Conditions of employment of other servants of the European Communities, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Executive Director of the Agency.
- (g) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement, Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement, with the exception of Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 3, shall apply to this paragraph.
- (h) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the application of this Regulation, apply to any documents of the Agency regarding the EFTA States as well.

^{14} Text replaced by Decision No 72/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 46, 15.9.2005, p. 40), e.i.f. 30.4.2005 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 98/2006 (OJ L 289, 19.10.2006, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 52, 19.10.2006, p. 40), e.i.f. 8.7.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 94/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 139/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 21 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 24), e.i.f. 15.12.2012, it shall apply from 1.1.2012.

^{15} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 180/2004 (OJ L 133, 26.5.2005, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 26, 26.5.2005, p. 30), e.i.f. 17.12.2004 and subsequently text replaced by Decision No 94/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 121/2012 (OJ L 270, 4.10.2012, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 56, 4.10.2012, p. 46), e.i.f. 16.6.2012, it shall apply from 1.1.2012.

^{16} Indent and words “, as amended by:” added by Decision No 32/2015 (OJ L 93, 7.4.2016, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 21, 7.4.2016, p. 43), e.i.f. 26.2.2015.

- (i) With regard to Iceland, this paragraph shall be suspended until otherwise decided by the EEA Joint Committee.
- (j) This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.

8a.{¹⁷} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2009, participate in the activities which may result from the following Community act:

- **32008 R 0683**: Regulation (EC) No 683/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on the further implementation of the European satellite navigation programmes (EGNOS and Galileo) (OJ L 196, 24.7.2008, p. 1), as amended by:

-{¹⁸} **32010 R 0912**: Regulation (EU) No 912/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 (OJ L 276, 20.10.2010, p. 11).

- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.

In addition, and based on Article 82(1)(c) of the Agreement, Norway shall contribute the amount of EUR 20'114'000 for the year 2008, of which half shall be due for payment by 31 August 2012 and the other half by 31 August 2013, to be included in the call for funds foreseen in Article 2(2), first subparagraph of Protocol 32.

- (c) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in all the Community committees which assist the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to under (a).

Without prejudice to this, the participation of EFTA States in the Community committees which assist the European Commission specifically in security aspects of the activities referred to under (a) may be subject to separate arrangements to be agreed upon between the EFTA States and the European Commission. Such arrangements should contribute to a coherent protection in the European Community and the EFTA States of data, information and technologies of European GNSS programmes and to compliance with the international commitments of the Contracting Parties in this sector.

- (d){¹⁹} Procedures for the association of the EFTA States in accordance with Article 101 of the Agreement:

Each EFTA State may, in accordance with Article 4 of Commission Decision 2009/334/EC(1), appoint a person to participate as a full member in the meetings of the expert group on the security of the European GNSS systems (The Security Board for the European GNSS Systems).

- (1) Commission Decision 2009/334/EC of 20 April 2009 (OJ L 101, 21.4.2009, p. 22).

The European Commission shall, in due time, inform the participants of the dates of the meetings of the group and transmit to them the relevant documentation.

- (e){²⁰} This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.

- (f) With regard to Iceland, this paragraph shall be suspended until otherwise decided by the EEA Joint Committee.

8aa.{²¹} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2014, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:

- **32013 R 1285**: Regulation (EU) No 1285/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the implementation and exploitation of European

{¹⁷} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 94/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009.

{¹⁸} Indent and words "as amended by" added by Decision No 121/2012 (OJ L 270, 4.10.2012, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 56, 4.10.2012, p. 46), e.i.f. 16.6.2012., it shall apply from 1.1.2012.

{¹⁹} New adaptation (d) inserted by Decision No 159/2009 (OJ L 62, 11.3.2010, p. 65 and EEA Supplement No 12, 11.3.2010, p. 63), e.i.f. 5.12.2009.

{²⁰} Adaptation (d) and (e) renumbered to (e) and (f) respectively by Decision No 159/2009 (OJ L 62, 11.3.2010, p. 65 and EEA Supplement No 12, 11.3.2010, p. 63), e.i.f. 5.12.2009.

{²¹} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 247/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 4), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

satellite navigation systems and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 876/2002 and Regulation (EC) No 683/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 1).

- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.
- (c) The cost of the extension of the geographical coverage of the EGNOS system to the territories of the participating EFTA States shall be borne by the EFTA States as part of the financial contribution to the activities referred to under (a). Such coverage extension shall be subject to technical feasibility and shall not delay the extension of the geographical coverage of the EGNOS system throughout the EU Member States' territories geographically located in Europe.
- (d) At the project level, the institutions, undertakings, organizations and nationals of EFTA States shall have the rights referred to in Article 81(d) of the Agreement.
- (c) 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 247/2014 of 13 November 2014 enters into force before the end of the action.
- (f) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in all the Union committees which assist the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to under (a).

The participation of the EFTA States in the Union committees and groups of experts which assist the European Commission specifically in security aspects of the activities referred to under (a) shall be addressed in the rules of procedure of these committees and groups.

- (g) This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.
- (h) With regard to Iceland, this paragraph shall be suspended until otherwise decided by the EEA Joint Committee.

8ab.{²²} (a) The EFTA States shall participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:

- **32011 D 1104:** Decision No 1104/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the rules for access to the public regulated service provided by the global navigation satellite system established under the Galileo programme (OJ L 287, 4.11.2011, p. 1).

- (b) The EFTA States may become PRS participants subject to the conclusion of the agreements referred to in Article 3(5)(a) and (b) of Decision No 1104/2011/EU.
- (c) The participation of EFTA States in the various committees and groups of experts related to the PRS shall be addressed in their corresponding rules of procedure.
- (d) Article 10 of Decision No 1104/2011/EU shall not apply to the EFTA States.
- (e) This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.
- (f) With regard to Iceland, this paragraph shall be suspended until otherwise decided by the EEA Joint Committee.

8b.{²³} The Contracting Parties shall encourage appropriate cooperation between the competent organisations, institutions and other bodies in their respective territories so as to encourage participation of stakeholders from the EFTA States on equal terms as those from the EU Member States in the SESAR project, including activities of the SESAR Joint Undertaking in accordance with its basic Regulation(1).

^{22} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 248/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 6), e.i.f. 14.11.2014.

^{23} Paragraph and text inserted by Decision No 78/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 37 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 36), e.i.f. 12.6.2010.

The EFTA States participate fully, except for the right to vote, in the Single European Sky committee which assists the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities of the SESAR Joint Undertaking.

- (1) **32007 R 0219**: Council Regulation (EC) No 219/2007 of 27 February 2007 on the establishment of a Joint Undertaking to develop the new generation European air traffic management system (SESAR) (OJ L 64, 2.3.2007, p. 1), as amended by:
- ^{24} **32008 R 1361**: Council Regulation (EC) No 1361/2008 of 16 December 2008 (OJ L 352, 31.12.2008, p. 12),
- ^{25} **32014 R 0721**: Council Regulation (EU) No 721/2014 of 16 June 2014 (OJ L 192, 1.7.2014, p. 1).
- 8c.^{26} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2012, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:
- **32010 R 0911**: Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 on the European Earth monitoring programme (GMES) and its initial operations (2011 to 2013) (OJ L 276, 20.10.2010, p. 1).
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.
- (c) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in all the Union committees which assist the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to under (a), namely the GMES Committee, the Security Board and the User Forum.
- (d) This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.
- (e)^{27} []
- 8d.^{28} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2014, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:
- **32014 R 0377**: Regulation (EU) No 377/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 establishing the Copernicus Programme and repealing Regulation (EU) No 911/2010 (OJ L 122, 24.4.2014, p. 44).
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of, and Protocol 32 to, the Agreement.
- (c) 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 249/2014 of 13 November 2014 enters into force before the end of the action.
- (d) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in all the Union committees which assist the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to under (a).
- (e) This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.

^{24} Indent and words “as amended by” added by Decision No 79/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 38), e.i.f. 12.6.2010.

^{25} Indent added by Decision No 300/2014 (OJ L 311, 26.11.2015, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 71, 26.11.2015, p. 54), e.i.f. 13.12.2014. It shall apply from 1.1.2014.

^{26} Paragraph and text inserted by Decision No 139/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 21 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 24), e.i.f. 15.12.2012. It shall apply from 1.1.2012.

^{27} Adaptation (e) deleted by Decision No 233/2012 (OJ L 81, 21.3.2013, p. 35 and EEA Supplement No 18, 21.3.2013, p. 41), e.i.f. 8.12.2012. It shall apply from 1.1.2013.

^{28} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 249/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 8), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words “Norway and” deleted from paragraph 8d(e) by Decision No 172/2015 (OJ L 341, 15.12.2016, p. 73 and EEA Supplement No 69, 15.12.2016, p. 74), e.i.f. 12.6.2015, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

- 8e.{²⁹} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2021, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act and in the European Union Agency for the Space Programme, hereafter referred to as the 'Agency', with the exception of the Governmental Satellite Communication (GOVSATCOM) and space situational awareness (SSA) space surveillance and tracking (SST) activities, as set up by the following Union act:
- **32021 R 0696:** Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 69).
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.
- (c) The financial contribution referred to under (b) shall also cover the cost of the inclusion of the EFTA States in the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) mission and the extension of the EGNOS services coverage to the territories of the participating EFTA States. Such coverage extension shall be subject to technical feasibility and shall not delay the extension of the geographical coverage of the EGNOS system throughout the EU Member States' territories geographically located in Europe.
- (d) The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 319/2021 of 29 October 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.
- (e) The eligible EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Administrative Board of the Agency.
- (f) The eligible EFTA States shall participate, without the right to vote, in the Security Accreditation Board of the Agency, for relevant parts of the programme, and their participation shall be restricted in compliance with the need-to-know policy established by the programme.
- (g) The Agency shall have legal personality. It shall enjoy in all the States of the Contracting Parties the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under their laws.
- (h) The EFTA States shall grant privileges and immunities to the Agency and its staff equivalent to those contained in the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the European Union.
- (i) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(a) and 82(3)(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Executive Director of the Agency.
- (j) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(e), 82(3)(e) and 85(3) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, the languages referred to in Article 129(1) of the Agreement shall be considered by the Agency, in respect of its staff, as languages of the Union referred to in Article 55(1) of the Treaty on European Union.
- (k) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement, Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement, with the exception of Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 3, shall apply to this paragraph.
- (l) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the application of Regulation (EU) 2021/696, apply to any documents of the Agency regarding the EFTA States as well.
- (m) The eligible EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Union committees which assist the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the Galileo, EGNOS and Copernicus components and SSA space weather events (SWE) and SSA near-Earth objects (NEO) sub-components of the activities referred to under (a).
- The participation in the security configuration of those committees shall be restricted in compliance with the need-to-know policy established by the programme.

²⁹ Paragraph inserted by Decision No 319/2021 (OJ L, 2024/526, 29.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 19, 29.2.2024, p. 61), e.i.f. 30.10.2021, it shall apply from 1.1.2021.

- (n) Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.
- (o) Iceland shall participate in, and financially contribute to, the following activities of the programme: EGNOS, Copernicus, and the SSA SWE and NEO sub-components.

9.{³⁰} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2005, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2005:

- **Budget line 08.14.01:** “Preparatory action for the enhancement of European security research (2005)”.

10.{³¹} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2006, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2006:

- **Budget line 02.04.02:** “Preparatory action for the enhancement of European security research”.

{³⁰} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 72/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 46, 15.9.2005, p. 40), e.i.f. 30.4.2005.

{³¹} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 98/2006 (OJ L 289, 19.10.2006, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 52, 19.10.2006, p. 40), e.i.f. 8.7.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

- 11.{³²} (a) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, hereinafter referred to as the “Institute”, as set up by the following Community acts:
- **32008 R 0294**: Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (OJ L 97, 9.4.2008, p. 1), as amended by:
 - {³³} **32013 R 1292**: Regulation (EU) No 1292/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No 294/2008 establishing the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 174),
 - {³⁴} **32021 R 0819**: Regulation (EU) 2021/819 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 on the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (recast) (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 61).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 263/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.
- (b) [] {³⁵}
- (c) The EFTA States shall apply to the Institute and to its staff the Protocol of Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities.
- (d) By way of derogation from Article 12(2)(a) of the Conditions of employment of other servants of the European Communities, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Director of the Institute.
- (e) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement shall apply to this paragraph.
- (f) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the application of this Regulation, apply to any documents of the Institute regarding the EFTA States as well.
- 12.{³⁶} (a) The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of activities which may result from the following Community act:
- **32009 R 0723**: Council Regulation (EC) No 723/2009 of 25 June 2009 on the Community legal framework for a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) (OJ L 206, 8.8.2009, p. 1), as amended by:
 - **32013 R 1261**: Council Regulation (EU) No 1261/2013 of 2 December 2013 (OJ L 326, 6.12.2013, p. 1).
- (b) Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EC) No 723/2009 refers to Council Directive 2006/112/EC of 28 November 2006 on the common system of value added tax and Council Directive 92/12/EEC of 25 February 1992 on the general arrangements for products subject to excise duty and on the holding, movement and monitoring of such products, which are not incorporated into the Agreement. These references shall therefore only be relevant in the application of Article 5(1)(d) and be without prejudice to the scope of the Agreement.

{³²} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 93/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 26), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. The words “Community act” replaced by the words “Community acts” by Decision No 263/2021 (OJ L, 2024/507, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 67), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

{³³} Indent and words “, as amended by:” added by Decision No 109/2014 (OJ L 310, 30.10.2014, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 63, 30.10.2014, p. 68), e.i.f. 17.5.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{³⁴} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 263/2021 (OJ L, 2024/507, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 67), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

{³⁵} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 93/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 26), e.i.f. 5.7.2008 and subsequently deleted by Decision No 109/2014 (OJ L 310, 30.10.2014, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 63, 30.10.2014, p. 68), e.i.f. 17.5.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{³⁶} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 72/2015 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2016, p. 85 and EEA Supplement No 29, 19.5.2016, p. 84), e.i.f. 6.6.2015 and subsequently corrected before publication by Corrigendum of 10.7.2015.

- (c) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in all the Community committees which assist the European Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to under (a).
- 13.{³⁷} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 11 April 2017, participate in Union activities related to the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.{³⁸}:
- **Budget line 02 04 77 03:** “Preparatory action on defence research”.
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in point (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
- (c) The costs incurred by institutions, undertakings, organizations and nationals of the EFTA States for their participation in the activities referred to in point (a), the implementation of which starts after 11 April 2017, shall be considered eligible as from the beginning of the action under the same conditions as those applicable to costs incurred by institutions, undertakings, organizations and nationals of the EU Member States and pursuant to the relevant grant agreement or grant decision provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 208/2017 of 27 October 2017 has entered into force before the end of the preparatory action.
- (d) Iceland and Liechtenstein shall not participate in that preparatory action, and shall not financially contribute to the activities referred to in point (a).
- 14.{³⁹} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2021, participate in Union activities related to the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2021:
- **Budget line PA 13 17 01:** “Preparatory action on defence research”.
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in point (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
- (c) Iceland and Liechtenstein shall not participate in that preparatory action, and shall not financially contribute to the activities referred to in point (a).

Article 2{⁴⁰}

Information Services and security of information systems

- 1.{⁴¹} The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the Community programmes and actions referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6.
- 2.{⁴²} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.

{³⁷} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 208/2017 (OJ L 219, 22.8.2019, p. 22 and EEA Supplement No 68, 22.8.2019, p. 24), e.i.f. 28.10.2017, it shall apply from 11 April 2017.

{³⁸} Words “financial year 2017” replaced by the words “financial years 2017 and 2018” by Decision No 119/2018 (OJ L 368, 5.11.2020, p. 23), e.i.f. 1.6.2018, it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words “and 2018” replaced by the words “, 2018 and 2019” by Decision No 201/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 40), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from the 1.1.2019. Words “and 2019” replaced by the words “2019 and 2020” by Decision No 171/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 39), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020.

{³⁹} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 272/2021 (OJ L, 2024/515, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 85), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1 January 2021.

{⁴⁰} This article, inserted by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former article 2.

{⁴¹} Text partly changed by Decision No 82/2000 (OJ L 315, 14.12.2000, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 59, 14.12.2000, p. 22), e.i.f. 3.10.2000.

{⁴²} Text partly changed by Decision No 82/2000 (OJ L 315, 14.12.2000, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 59, 14.12.2000, p. 22), e.i.f. 3.10.2000.

{⁴³} Regarding the activities referred to in paragraph 7, the EFTA States shall contribute financially to the budget lines 09 03 04 and 09 01 04 03 (trans-European telecommunications networks), as well as to the subsequent corresponding budget lines, in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.

- 3.{⁴⁴} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in programmes and actions referred to in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7, participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management, development and implementation of these programmes and actions.
4. Evaluation and major redirection of activities in the programmes in the field of information services shall be governed by the procedure referred to in Article 79 (3) of the Agreement.
5. The following Community acts, as well as acts deriving therefrom, are the object of this Article:
 - **389 D 0286:** Council Decision 89/286/EEC of 17 April 1989 on the implementation at Community level of the main phase of the strategic programme for innovation and technology transfer (1989 to 1994) (Sprint programme) (OJ No L 112, 25.4.1989, p. 12), as amended by:
 - **394 D 0005:** Council Decision 94/5/EC of 20 December 1993 (OJ No L 6, 8.1.1994, p. 25).
 - **391 D 0691:** Council Decision 91/691/EEC of 12 December 1991 adopting a programme for the establishment of an internal information services market (OJ No L 377, 31.12.1991, p. 41),
 - **392 D 0242:** Council Decision 92/242/EEC of 31 March 1992 in the field of security of information systems (OJ No L 123, 8.5.1992, p. 19),
 - {⁴⁵} **396 D 0339:** Council Decision 96/339/EC of 20 May 1996 adopting of multi-annual Community programme to stimulate the development of a European multimedia content industry and to encourage the use of multimedia content in the emerging information society (INFO 2000) (OJ No L 129, 30.5.1996, p. 24),
 - {⁴⁶} **396 D 0664:** Council Decision 96/664/EC of 21 November 1996 on the adoption of a multiannual programme to promote the linguistic diversity of the Community in the information society (OJ No L 306, 28.11.1996, p. 40),
 - {⁴⁷} **398 D 0253:** Council Decision 98/253/EC of 30 March 1998 adopting a multiannual Community programme to stimulate the establishment of the Information Society in Europe (Information Society) (OJ L 107, 7.4.1998, p. 10),
 - {⁴⁸} **399 D 0276:** Decision No 276/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 January 1999 adopting a multiannual Community action plan on promoting safer use of the Internet by combating illegal and harmful content on global networks (OJ L 33, 6.2.1999, p. 1), as amended by:
 - {⁴⁹} **32003 D 1151:** Decision No 1151/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 June 2003 (OJ L 162, 1.7.2003, p. 1),
 - {⁵⁰} **32004 D 0787:** Decision No 787/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 12).

{⁴³} Text added by Decision No 38/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 24), e.i.f. 11.3.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

{⁴⁴} Text partly changed by Decision No 82/2000 (OJ L 315, 14.12.2000, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 59, 14.12.2000, p. 22), e.i.f. 3.10.2000, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 38/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 24), e.i.f. 11.3.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

{⁴⁵} Indent added by Decision No 83/96 (OJ L 145, 5.6.1997, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 24, 5.6.1997, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.8.1997.

{⁴⁶} Indent added by Decision No 37/97 (OJ L 160, 4.6.1998, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 22, 4.6.1998, p. 23), e.i.f. 1.2.1998.

{⁴⁷} Indent added by Decision No 69/1999 (OJ L 284, 9.11.2000, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.11.2000, p. 44), e.i.f. 1.8.1999.

{⁴⁸} Indent added by Decision No 99/1999 (OJ L 296, 23.11.2000, p. 78 and EEA Supplement No 55, 23.11.2000, p. 289), e.i.f. 1.1.2000.

{⁴⁹} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 58/2004 (OJ L 277, 26.8.2004, p. 29 and EEA Supplement No 43, 26.8.2004, p. 24), e.i.f. 24.4.2004.

{⁵⁰} Sub-indent added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

- ^{51} **32001 D 0048**: Council Decision 2001/48/EC of 22 December 2000 adopting a multiannual Community programme to stimulate the development and use of European digital content on the global networks and to promote the linguistic diversity in the information society (OJ L 14, 18.1.2001, p. 32),
- ^{52} **32003 D 2256**: Decision No 2256/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 (OJ L 336, 23.12.2003, p. 1), as amended by:
 - ^{53} **32004 D 0787**: Decision No 787/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 12),
 - ^{54} **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).
- ^{55} **32005 D 0456**: Decision No 456/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2005 establishing a multiannual Community programme to make digital content in Europe more accessible, usable and exploitable (OJ L 79, 24.3.2005, p. 1),
- ^{56} **32005 D 0854**: Decision No 854/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2005 on establishing a multiannual Community Programme on promoting safer use of the Internet and new online technologies (OJ L 149, 11.6.2005, p. 1),
- ^{57} **32008 D 1351**: Decision No 1351/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 establishing a multiannual Community programme on protecting children using the Internet and other communication technologies (OJ L 348, 24.12.2008, p. 118),
- ^{58} **32013 R 1316**: Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, amending Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 680/2007 and (EC) No 67/2010 (OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 129), as amended by:
 - ^{59} **32017 R 1953**: Regulation (EU) 2017/1953 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2017 (OJ L 286, 1.11.2017, p. 1).

The EFTA States shall only participate in the telecommunications sector of the Connecting Europe Facility.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.
- ^{60} **32014 R 0283**: Regulation (EU) No 283/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on guidelines for trans-European networks in the area of telecommunications infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1336/97/EC (OJ L 86, 21.3.2014, p. 14) as amended by:
 - ^{61} **32017 R 1953**: Regulation (EU) 2017/1953 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2017 (OJ L 286, 1.11.2017, p. 1).

^{51} Indent added by Decision No 87/2001 (OJ L 238, 6.9.2001, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 44, 6.9.2001, p. 33), e.i.f. 20.6.2001.

^{52} Indent added by Decision No 87/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 23), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{53} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{54} Sub-indent added by Decision No 73/2006 (OJ L 245, 7.9.2006, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 44, 7.9.2006, p. 37), e.i.f. 3.6.2006; it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{55} Indent added by Decision No 129/2005 (OJ L 339, 22.12.2005, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 66, 22.12.2005, p. 33), e.i.f. 1.10.2005.

^{56} Indent added by Decision No 17/2006 (OJ L 92, 30.3.2006, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 17, 30.3.2006, p. 22), e.i.f. 16.5.2006.

^{57} Indent added by Decision No 75/2009 (OJ L 232, 3.9.2009, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 47, 3.9.2009, p. 44), e.i.f. 30.5.2009; it shall apply from 1.1.2009.

^{58} Indent added by Decision No 157/2014 (OJ L 15, 22.1.2015, p. 85 and EEA Supplement No 5, 22.1.2015, p. 8), e.i.f. 10.7.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

^{59} Indent and words “, as amended by:” added by Decision No 33/2018 (OJ L 323, 12.12.2019, p. 65 and EEA Supplement No 98, 12.12.2019, p. 55), e.i.f. 10.2.2018.

^{60} Indent added by Decision No 244/2014 (OJ L 230, 3.9.2015, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 52, 3.9.2015, p. 50), e.i.f. 1.11.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

^{61} Indent and words “, as amended by:” added by Decision No 33/2018 (OJ L 323, 12.12.2019, p. 65 and EEA Supplement No 98, 12.12.2019, p. 55), e.i.f. 10.2.2018.

- ^{62} **32021 R 0694**: Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the Digital Europe Programme and repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240 (OJ L 166, 11.5.2021, p. 1).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 264/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

- 6.^{63} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2000, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2000:

- **B5-3 3 4**: Promotion of the European digital content on the global networks.

- 7.^{64} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2006, participate in the activities which may result from the following acts, to the extent they are related to projects of common interest in the field of trans-European telecommunications networks:

- **395 R 2236**: Council Regulation (EC) No 2236/95 of 18 September 1995 laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks (OJ L 228, 23.9.1995, p. 1), as amended by:
 - **399 R 1655**: Regulation (EC) No 1655/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 July 1999 (OJ L 197, 29.7.1999, p. 1),
 - **32004 R 0788**: Regulation (EC) No 788/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 17),
 - **32004 R 0807**: Regulation (EC) No 807/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 143, 30.4.2004, p. 46),
 - **32005 R 1159**: Regulation (EC) No 1159/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2005 (OJ L 191, 22.7.2005, p. 16).
- **397 D 1336**: Decision No 1336/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 1997 on a series of guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks (OJ L 183, 11.7.1997, p. 12), as amended by:
 - **32002 D 1376**: Decision No 1376/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2002 (OJ L 200, 30.7.2002, p. 1).

- 8.^{65} (a) The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2023, participate in the activities which may result from the following act:

- **32021 R 0887**: Regulation (EU) 2021/887 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and the Network of National Coordination Centres (OJ L 202, 8.6.2021, p. 1).

- (b) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the Governing Board and shall have the same rights and obligations within it as EU Member States, except for the right to vote.

- (c) Nationals of the EFTA States shall be eligible as members of the Strategic Advisory Group.

- (d) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(a) and 82(3)(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Executive Director of the Competence Centre.

^{62} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 264/2021 (OJ L, 2024/484, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 69), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

^{63} Paragraph 6 added by Decision No 82/2000 (OJ L 315, 14.12.2000, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 59, 14.12.2000, p. 22), e.i.f. 3.10.2000.

^{64} Paragraph 7 added by Decision No 38/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 24), e.i.f. 11.3.2006; it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{65} Paragraph 8 added by Decision No 27/2023 (OJ L, 2023/2304, 19.10.2023 and EEA Supplement No 75, 19.10.2023, p. 41), e.i.f. 21.6.2023. It shall apply from 1.1.2023.

- (e) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(e), 82(3)(e) and 85(3) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, the languages referred to in Article 129(1) of the Agreement shall be considered by the Competence Centre, in respect of its staff, as languages of the Union referred to in Article 55(1) of the Treaty on European Union.
- (f) The EFTA States shall grant privileges and immunities to the Competence Centre and its staff equivalent to those contained in the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the European Union.
- (g) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the application of Regulation (EU) 2021/887, apply to any documents of the Competence Centre regarding the EFTA States as well.
- (h) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement, Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement shall apply to this paragraph.

Article 3

Environment

1. Cooperation in the field of environment shall be strengthened in the framework of the activities of the Community, in particular in the following areas:
 - {⁶⁶} policy and action programmes on the environment and, in particular, in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:
 - {⁶⁷} **493 Y 0517**: Resolution of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council of 1 February 1993 on a Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development (OJ C 138, 17.5.1993, p. 1),
 - {⁶⁸} **397 D 0150**: Commission Decision 97/150/EC of 24 February 1997 on the setting-up of a European consultative forum on the environment and sustainable development (OJ L 58, 27.2.1997, p. 48),
 - {⁶⁹} **32001 D 0704**: Commission Decision 2001/704/EC of 26 September 2001 repealing Decision 97/150/EC on the setting-up of a European consultative forum on the environment and sustainable development (OJ L 258, 27.9.2001, p. 20).
 - {⁷⁰} **398 D 2179**: Decision No 2179/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 1998 on the review of the European Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development "Towards sustainability" (OJ L 275, 10.10.1998, p. 1).
 - integration of environmental protection requirements into other policies;
 - economic and fiscal instruments;
 - environmental questions which have transboundary implications;
 - major regional and global topics under discussion within international organizations.

The cooperation shall include, inter alia, regular meetings.

{⁶⁶} Sub-Indent replaced by Decision No 192/1999 (OJ L 74, 15.3.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 14, 15.3.2001, p. 133 (Norwegian) and p. 220 (Icelandic)), e.i.f. 18.12.1999.

{⁶⁷} Sub-Indent replaced by Decision No 192/1999 (OJ L 74, 15.3.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 14, 15.3.2001, p. 133 (Norwegian) and p. 220 (Icelandic)), e.i.f. 18.12.1999.

{⁶⁸} Sub-Indent added by Decision No 192/1999 (OJ L 74, 15.3.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 14, 15.3.2001, p. 133 (Norwegian) and p. 220 (Icelandic)), e.i.f. 18.12.1999.

{⁶⁹} Sub-sub indent inserted by Decision No 46/2002 (OJ L 154, 13.6.2002, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 29, 13.6.2002, p. 25), e.i.f. 20.4.2002.

{⁷⁰} Indent added by Decision No 24/2000 (OJ L 103, 12.4.2001, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 20, 12.4.2001, p. 339), e.i.f. 26.2.2000.

- 2.{⁷¹} (a) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the European Environment Agency, hereinafter referred to as the 'Agency', and the European Environment Information and observation network, as set up in Regulation (EC) No 401/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network (¹).
- (1) OJ L 126, 21.5.2009, p. 13
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1) and Protocol 32 of the Agreement.
- (c) The EFTA States shall, in consequence of (b), participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Agency Management Board and shall be associated with the work of the scientific committee of the Agency.
- (d) The term 'Member State(s)' and other terms referring to their public entities contained in Articles 4 and 5 of the Regulation shall be understood to include, in addition to their meaning in the Regulation, the EFTA States and their public entities.
- (e) Environmental data supplied to or emanating from the Agency may be published and shall be made accessible to the public, provided that confidential information is afforded the same degree of protection in the EFTA States as it is afforded within the Community.
- (f) The Agency shall have legal personality. It shall enjoy in all the states of the Contracting Parties the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under their laws.
- (g) EFTA States shall apply to the Agency the Protocol of Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities.
- (h) By way of derogation from Article 12(2)(a) of the Conditions of employment of other servants of the European Communities, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Executive Director of the Agency.
- (i) By virtue of Article 79(3), Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement shall apply to this paragraph.
- (j) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the application of Regulation (EC) No 401/2009, apply to any documents of the Agency regarding the EFTA States as well.
3. Where it has been decided by the EEA Joint Committee that cooperation shall take the form of parallel legislation of identical or similar content by the Contracting Parties, the procedures referred to in Article 79 (3) of the Agreement shall thereafter apply to the preparation of such legislation in the field in question.
- 4.{⁷²} The EFTA States shall participate in the Community actions referred to in paragraph 7.
- 5.{⁷³} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the Community actions{⁷⁴} referred to in paragraph 7 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
- 6.{⁷⁵} The EFTA States shall participate fully in the bodies{⁷⁶} which assist the EC Commission in the management, development and implementation of the Community actions{⁷⁷} referred to in paragraph 7.

{⁷¹} Paragraph 2 introduced by Decision No 11/94 (OJ L 253, 29.9.1994, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 36, 29.9.1994, p. 3) e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former paragraph 2 of Article 3 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 140/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 23 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 26), e.i.f. 14.7.2012.

{⁷²} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 58/2001 (OJ L 165, 21.6.2001, p. 64, and EEA Supplement No 32, 21.6.2001, p. 5), e.i.f. 19.5.2001 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 66/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 31.5.2002.

{⁷³} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 58/2001 (OJ L 165, 21.6.2001, p. 64, and EEA Supplement No 32, 21.6.2001, p. 5), e.i.f. 19.5.2001

{⁷⁴} Words 'action programme' replaced by the word 'actions' by Decision No 66/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 31.5.2002.

{⁷⁵} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 58/2001 (OJ L 165, 21.6.2001, p. 64, and EEA Supplement No 32, 21.6.2001, p. 5), e.i.f. 19.5.2001

{⁷⁶} Words 'EC Committees' replaced by the word 'bodies' by Decision No 66/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 31.5.2002.

{⁷⁷} Words 'action programme' replaced by the word 'actions' by Decision No 66/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 31.5.2002.

7.{⁷⁸}{⁷⁹}The following Community acts, as well as acts deriving therefrom, are the object of this Article:

(a) Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2001:

- **32000 D 2850**: Decision No 2850/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2000 setting up a Community framework for cooperation in the field of accidental or deliberate marine pollution (OJ L 332, 28.12.2000, p. 1), as amended by:

-{⁸⁰} **32004 D 0787**: Decision No 787/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 12).

(b){⁸¹} Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2002:

- **32001 D 1411**: Decision No 1411/2001/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on a Community Framework for cooperation to promote sustainable urban development (OJ L 191, 13.7.2001, p. 1), as amended by:

-{⁸²} **32004 D 0786**: Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7).

(c){⁸³} []

(d){⁸⁴} Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2005:

- **32002 D 1600**: Decision No 1600/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 July 2002 laying down the Sixth Community Environment Action Programme (OJ L 242, 10.9.2002, p. 1).

(e){⁸⁵} **32013 D 1386**: Decision No 1386/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013 on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 ‘Living well, within the limits of our planet’ (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 171).

(f){⁸⁶} Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2021:

- **32021 R 0783**: Regulation (EU) 2021/783 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE), and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 (OJ L 72, 17.5.2021, p. 53).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 265/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Liechtenstein and Norway shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

8.(a){⁸⁷} Iceland and Norway will fulfil their respective greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2030 in accordance with the following acts:

{⁷⁸} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 58/2001 (OJ L 165, 21.6.2001, p. 64, and EEA Supplement No 32, 21.6.2001, p. 5), e.i.f. 19.5.2001

{⁷⁹} The text, but not the indent, of paragraph 7 replaced by Decision No 66/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 31.5.2002.

{⁸⁰} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{⁸¹} Subparagraph (b) added by Decision No 66/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 31.5.2002.

{⁸²} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{⁸³} Subparagraph (c) added by Decision No 65/2004 (OJ L 277, 26.8.2004, p. 182 and EEA Supplement No 43, 26.8.2004, p. 165), e.i.f. 19.6.2004, and subsequently deleted by Decision No 70/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 8), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{⁸⁴} Subparagraph (d) added by Decision No 135/2005 (OJ L 14, 19.1.2006, p. 24 and EEA Supplement No 4, 19.1.2006, p. 6), e.i.f. 22.10.2005.

{⁸⁵} Subparagraph (e) added by Decision No 102/2017 (OJ L 36, 7.2.2019, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 11, 7.2.2019, p. 73), e.i.f. 6.5.2017.

{⁸⁶} Subparagraph (f) added by Decision No 265/2021 (OJ L, 2024/510, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 71), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021 and subsequently corrected before publication by Corrigendum of 10.12.2021.

{⁸⁷} Point and adaptation texts inserted by Decision No 269/2019 (OJ L 11, 12.1.2023, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 5, 12.1.2023, p. 32), e.i.f. 11.3.2020.

- **32018 R 0841:** Regulation (EU) 2018/841 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry in the 2030 climate and energy framework, and amending Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 and Decision No 529/2013/EU (OJ L 156, 19.06.2018, p. 1), as amended by:

-{⁸⁸} **32021 R 0268:** Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/268 of 28 October 2020 (OJ L 60, 22.2.2021, p. 21).⁷

The Regulation shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptations:

- (i) In Article 6(2), the words “30 years” shall, for Iceland, be read as “50 years”.
- (ii) The following shall be added to Article 8(7):
 “The EFTA States shall communicate their revised proposed forest reference levels to the EFTA Surveillance Authority no later than nine months after the entry into force of Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 269/2019 of 25 October 2019 for the period from 2021-2025. The EFTA Surveillance Authority shall publish the proposed forest reference levels communicated to it by the EFTA States.”
- (iii) Article 13(2)(a) shall, for the EFTA States, read as follows:
 “The EFTA State has submitted a strategy as set out below for the land use, land use change and forestry sector with a perspective of at least 30 years, including also ongoing or planned specific measures to ensure the conservation or enhancement, as appropriate, of forest sinks and reservoirs;
 1. By 1 January 2020, each EFTA State shall prepare and submit to the EFTA Surveillance Authority its strategy for the land use, land use change and forestry sector with a perspective of at least 30 years. EFTA States should, where necessary, update these strategies by 1 January 2025.
 2. The EFTA States' strategies shall contribute to:
 - (a) fulfilling the EFTA States' commitments under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement to reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and enhance removals by sinks and to promote increased carbon sequestration;
 - (b) fulfilling the objective of the Paris Agreement of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1,5 °C above pre-industrial levels;
 - (c) achieving long-term greenhouse gas emission reductions and enhancements of removals by sinks to the extent relevant for the LULUCF sector, in accordance with the objective, in the context of necessary reductions according to the (IPCC) to reduce EFTA states greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective manner and enhance removals by sinks in pursuit of the temperature goals in the Paris Agreement so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.
 3. The EFTA States' strategies shall cover:
 - (a) emission reductions and enhancements of removals in land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF); taking into account bioenergy and biomaterials from this sector.
 - (b) To the extent it is relevant to land use, land use change and forestry, links to other national long-term objectives, planning and other policies and measures.
 4. The EFTA States shall inform and make available to the public forthwith their respective strategies and any updates thereof.
 5. The EFTA Surveillance Authority shall assess whether the EFTA States' strategies are adequate for documenting fulfilment under this Article.
 6. The EFTA States' strategies for the land use, land use change and forestry sector should contain the elements set out below:
 - A. OVERVIEW AND PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE STRATEGIES
 - A.1. Executive summary
 - A.2. Legal and policy context, including where appropriate, indicative milestones for 2040 and 2050
 - B. CONTENT
 - B.1. LAND USE, LAND-USE CHANGE AND FORESTRY (LULUCF)

{⁸⁸} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 164/2022 (OJ L 246, 22.9.2022, p. 222 and EEA Supplement No 61, 22.9.2022, p. 215), e.i.f. 30.4.2022.

B.1.1. Projected emission reductions and enhancement of removals by 2050

B.1.2 To the extent feasible, expected emissions by sources and by individual GHGs

B.1.3. Emission reduction options and options for enhancement of sinks envisaged

B.1.4. To the extent it is relevant for the conservation or enhancement, as appropriate, of forest sinks and reservoirs; adaptation policies and measures

B.1.5 Aspects related to market demand for forest biomass and impact on harvest

B.1.6. As necessary, details on modelling (including assumptions) and/or analysis, indicators, etc.”

- (iv) The following shall be added to Article 15(2):
“The Central Administrator shall be competent to perform the tasks referred to in this Article when EFTA States are concerned. The EFTA Surveillance Authority shall be informed if the Central Administrator blocks a transaction concerning or conducted by the EFTA States.”
- (v) The following shall be added to the table in Annex II:
“Iceland 0,5 10 2
Norway 0,1 10 5”
- (vi) The following shall be added to the table in Annex III:
“Iceland 1990
Norway 1990”
- (vii) The following shall be added to point (g) of section A of Annex IV:
“For the EFTA States, the reference level for the period 2021-2025 shall be consistent with projections reported to the European Environment Agency on a voluntary basis in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 and, for Iceland, also in accordance with the bilateral Agreement between Iceland and the European Union and its Member States concerning Iceland’s participation in the joint fulfilment of the commitments of the European Union, its Member States and Iceland for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change .”
- (viii) {⁸⁹} The following shall be added to the table of section C of Annex IV:
“Iceland -30 405
Norway -26 085 000”
- (ix) {⁹⁰} The following shall be added to the table in Annex VII:
“Iceland -0,0224 -0,0045
Norway -29,6 -35,5”

- **32018 R 0842:** Regulation (EU) 2018/842 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions by Member States from 2021 to 2030 contributing to climate action to meet commitments under the Paris Agreement and amending Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 (OJ L 156, 19.06.2018, p. 26).

The Regulation shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptations:

- (i) The following shall, for the EFTA States, be added to Article 4(3):
“In respect of the EFTA States, for the purpose of setting out the annual emission allocations for the years from 2021 to 2030 in terms of tonnes of CO₂ equivalent as specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the 2005 base year for the emission allocation 2030 will be based on the difference between total greenhouse gas emissions in 2005 resulting from the comprehensive review, which treat CO₂ emissions from aviation as zero, and the stationary EU ETS 2005 emissions in 2013 ETS scope as reported in Part B of the Appendix to the Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 152/2012 of 26 July 2012 , adapted with the values for global warming potentials adopted in a delegated act referred to in Article 26(6)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 or those identified by the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the IPCC until the delegated act becomes applicable. The stationary EU ETS 2005 emissions figures as reported

{⁸⁹} Adaptation (viii) inserted by Decision No 164/2022(OJ L [to be published] and EEA Supplement No [to be published]), e.i.f. 30.4.2022.

{⁹⁰} Adaptation (viii) in the first indent is renumbered as adaptation (ix) by Decision No 164/2022(OJ L [to be published] and EEA Supplement No [to be published]), e.i.f. 30.4.2022.

in the Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 152/2012 (AR2) and the same figures with updated values for global warming potentials (AR4) to be taken into account for the purpose of setting out the annual emission allocations for the years from 2021 to 2030 pursuant to this Article are set out in the Appendix.”

- (ii) The following shall be added after Annex IV:

“Appendix

EFTA States’ stationary EU ETS 2005 emissions figures as reported in the Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 152/2012 (AR2) and the same figures with updated values for global warming potentials (AR4) to be taken into account for the purpose of setting out the annual emission allocations for the years from 2021 to 2030 pursuant to Article 4(3)

Table 1: 2005 ETS emissions for Norway:

| Greenhouse gas (tons) | CO ₂ -eq (AR2) | CO ₂ -eq (AR4) | N ₂ O/PFC |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| CO ₂ | 23 090 000 | 23 090 000 | |
| N ₂ O | 1 955 000 | 1 880 000 | 6 308 |
| PFC | 829 000 | 955 000 | |
| CF ₄ | | | 116.698 |
| C ₂ F ₆ | | | 7.616 |
| Total | 25 874 000 | 25 925 000 | |

Table 2: 2005 ETS emissions for Iceland:

| Greenhouse gas (tons) | CO ₂ -eq (AR2) | CO ₂ -eq (AR4) | N ₂ O/PFC |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| CO ₂ | 909 132 | 909 132 | |
| PFC | 26 709 | 31 105 | |
| CF ₄ | | | 3.508 |
| C ₂ F ₆ | | | 0.424 |
| Total | 935 841 | 940 237 | |

”

- (iii) In Article 6(1), the words “100 million EU ETS allowances” shall read “107 million EU ETS allowances”
- (iv) The following shall be added to Article 12(2):
 “The Central Administrator shall be competent to perform the tasks referred to in this Article when EFTA States are concerned. The EFTA Surveillance Authority shall be informed if the Central Administrator blocks a transaction concerning or conducted by the EFTA States.”
- (v) The following shall be added to the table in Annex I:
 “Iceland - 29 %
 Norway - 40 %”
- (vi) The following shall be added to the table in Annex II:
 “Iceland 4 %
 Norway 2 %”
- (vii) The table in Annex III shall be amended as follows:
 a. The following shall be added to the table:
 “Iceland 0,2
 Norway 1,6”
 b. The number “280” for the maximum total shall read “281,8”

-{⁹¹} **32020 D 2126:** Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/2126 of 16 December 2020 on setting out the annual emission allocations of the Member States for the period from 2021 to 2030 pursuant to

^{91} Indent and adaptation texts inserted by Decision No 29/2022 (OJ L 175, 30.6.2022, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 42, 30.6.2022, p. 43), e.i.f. 5.2.2022.

Regulation (EU) 2018/842 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 426, 17.12.2020, p. 58).

The Decision shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptations:

(i) The following shall be added to the table in Annex I:

“

| | |
|---------|------------|
| Iceland | 3 109 329 |
| Norway | 28 925 334 |

”

(ii) The following shall be added to the table in Annex II:

“

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Iceland | 2 876 150 | 2 802 993 | 2 729 836 | 2 656 679 | 2 583 522 | 2 510 365 | 2 437 208 | 2 364 050 | 2 290 893 | 2 217 736 |
| Norway | 25 164 459 | 24 296 764 | 23 429 068 | 22 561 373 | 21 693 677 | 20 825 982 | 19 958 287 | 19 090 591 | 18 222 896 | 17 355 200 |

”

(iii) The following shall be added to the table in Annex III:

“

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| Iceland | 1 243 732 |
| Norway | 5 785 067 |

”.

- **32018 R 1999:** Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, amending Regulations (EC) No 663/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Directives 94/22/EC, 98/70/EC, 2009/31/EC, 2009/73/EC, 2010/31/EU, 2012/27/EU and 2013/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 2009/119/EC and (EU) 2015/652 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 1).

The applicable provisions of this Regulation are listed below and shall, for the purpose of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptations:

(i) Only the following provisions of the Regulation shall apply:

Articles 2(1)-2(10), 2(12)-(13), 2(15)-2(17), 18, 26(2)-(7), 29(5)(b), 37-42, 44(1)(a), (2)-(3) and (6), 57-58, and Annexes V-VII and XII-XIII.

(ii) Article 2(1)-(10) and 2(12)-(13) and 2(15)-(17) shall, for the purposes of this paragraph only apply to the EFTA States to the extent they relate to the implementation of Regulations (EU) 2018/841 and (EU) 2018/842.

(iii) Article 26(4) shall, for the EFTA States, read as follows:

“Iceland and Norway shall, by 15 April each year, submit to the EFTA Surveillance Authority a copy of the final greenhouse gas inventory data reported to the UNFCCC in accordance with paragraph 3.”

(iv)^{92} Article 41 shall, for the EFTA States, only apply to the extent the provisions or parts thereof mentioned in the Article are referred to or set out in this paragraph.

(v) The following sentence shall, for the EFTA States, be added after the first sentence of Article 42:

“The European Environment Agency shall only assist the EFTA Surveillance Authority in its work as regards Articles 18, 26(2)-(7), 29(5) (b), 37-39 and 41.”

- ^{93} **32020 R 1044:** Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1044 of 8 May 2020 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to values for

^{92} Adaptation text replaced by Decision No 223/2021 (OJ L, 2024/274, 8.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 13, 8.2.2024, p. 63), e.i.f. 10.7.2021.

^{93} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 223/2021 (OJ L, 2024/274, 8.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 13, 8.2.2024, p. 63), e.i.f. 10.7.2021.

global warming potentials and the inventory guidelines and with regard to the Union inventory system and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 666/2014 (OJ L 230, 17.7.2020, p. 1).

The Regulation shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptation:

The provisions of this Regulation shall only apply to the EFTA States to the extent that they relate to the implementation of this paragraph.

- **32013 R 0525:** Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and for reporting other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change and repealing Decision No 280/2004/EC (OJ L 165, 18.6.2013, p. 13).

The applicable provisions of this Regulation are listed below and shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptations:

- (i) Only the following provisions of the Regulation shall apply:
Articles 7, 19(1) and (3).
- (ii) Articles 7, 19(1) and (3) shall, for the purposes of this paragraph, only apply to the EFTA States to the extent they relate to the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2018/842.

- ^{94} **32020 R 1208:** Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1208 of 7 August 2020 on structure, format, submission processes and review of information reported by Member States pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 749/2014 (OJ L 278, 26.8.2020, p. 1).

The applicable provisions of this Regulation are listed below and shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptations:

- (i) Only the following provisions of the Regulation shall apply: Articles 1-3, 7-10, 12-15, 17-24, 26-40 and Annexes VI-VIII, X-XX, XXII-XXV.
- (ii) The provisions listed in (i) shall only apply to the EFTA States to the extent that they relate to the implementation of this paragraph.

- (b) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the EEA Agreement, Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement shall apply to this paragraph.
- (c) Protocol 1 to the EEA Agreement (Horizontal Adaptations) shall apply mutatis mutandis to this paragraph.
- (d) References to Union legislation, acts, rules, policies and measures in the acts and provisions referred to or contained in this paragraph shall apply to the extent and in the form that the relevant legislation, acts, rules policies and measures are incorporated into this Agreement.
- (e) Iceland and Norway shall participate fully in the work of the Climate Change Committee pursuant to the acts and provisions referred to or contained in this paragraph but shall not have the right to vote.
- (f) When the Commission consults experts designated by the Member States pursuant to the acts and provisions referred to or contained in this paragraph, it shall consult experts designated by the EFTA States on the same basis.
- (g) The European Environment Agency shall assist the EFTA Surveillance Authority in its work pursuant to Regulations (EU) 2018/841 and (EU) 2018/842.
- (h) This paragraph shall not apply to Liechtenstein.

Article 4

Education, training, youth and sport ^{95}

1. The EFTA States shall, from the entry into force of the Agreement, participate in the Community programme Youth for Europe in accordance with Part VI.
2. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 1995, participate subject to the provisions of Part VI, in all programmes of the Community in the field of education, training and youth then in force or adopted. The

^{94} Text of sixth indent (Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 749/2014) replaced by Decision No 223/2021 (OJ L, 2024/274, 8.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 13, 8.2.2024, p. 63), e.i.f. 10.7.2021.

^{95} Heading of Article 4 replaced by Decision No 140/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 23 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 26), e.i.f. 14.7.2012.

planning and development of programmes of the Community in this field shall, as from the entry into force of the Agreement, be subject to the procedures referred to in Part VI, in particular Article 79 (3).

2a.{⁹⁶} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 1997, participate in the Community actions related to the budget line B3-1011 "European Voluntary Service", entered in the Community budget for the year 1997.

2b.{⁹⁷} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 August 1998, participate in the following Community programme:

- **398 D 1686:** Decision No 1686/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 July 1998 establishing the Community action programme "European Voluntary Service for Young People" (OJ L 214, 31.7.1998, p. 1).

2c.{⁹⁸} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2000, participate in the following Community programmes:

- **399 D 0382:** Council Decision 1999/382/EC of 26 April 1999 establishing the second phase of the Community vocational training action programme "Leonardo da Vinci" (OJ L 146, 11.6.1999, p. 33), as amended by:

-^{99} **32004 R 0885:** Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).

-^{100} **399 D 0051:** Council Decision 1999/51/EC of 21 December 1998 on the promotion of European pathways in work-linked training, including apprenticeship (OJ L 17, 22.1.1999, p. 45).

-^{101} **32000 D 0253:** Decision No 253/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 January 2000 establishing the second phase of the Community action programme in the field of education "Socrates" (OJ L 28, 3.2.2000, p. 1), as amended by:

-^{102} **32003 D 0451:** Decision No 451/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 February 2003 (OJ L 69, 13.3.2003, p. 6),

-^{103} **32004 D 0786:** Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),

-^{104} **32004 R 0885:** Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).

-^{105} **32000 D 1031:** Decision No 1031/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 April 2000 establishing the "YOUTH" Community Action Programme (OJ L 117, 18.5.2000, p. 1), as amended by:

-^{106} **32004 D 0786:** Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),

^{96} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 86/97 (OJ L 193, 9.7.1998, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 27, 9.7.1998, p. 20) e.i.f. 1.11.1997.

^{97} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 22/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 254), e.i.f. 27.2.1999.

^{98} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 172/1999 (OJ L 61, 1.3.2001, p. 31 and EEA Supplement No 11, 1.3.2001, p. 252), e.i.f. 29.2.2000. Text replaced by Decision No 36/2000 (OJ L 141, 15.6.2000, p. 62 and EEA Supplement, No 27, p. 20), e.i.f. 1.8.2000.

^{99} Indent and words: "as amended by:" above, added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{100} Indent added by Decision No 36/2000 (OJ L 141, 15.6.2000, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 27, 15.6.2000, p. 22), e.i.f. 1.8.2000.

^{101} Indent added by Decision No 38/2000 (OJ L 141, 15.6.2000, p. 66 and EEA Supplement No 27, 15.6.2000, p. 24), e.i.f. 7.6.2000.

^{102} Indent and words: "as amended by:" added by Decision No 96/2003 (OJ L 272, 23.10.2003, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 54, 23.10.2003, p. 11), e.i.f. 12.7.2003.

^{103} Sub-indent added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{104} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{105} Indent added by Decision No 70/2000 (OJ L 250, 5.10.2000, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.10.2001, p. 6), e.i.f. 3.8.2000, it shall apply from 1.1.2000.

^{106} Indent and words "as amended by:" above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

-^{107} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).

2d.^{108} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2000, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2000:

- **B3-1003**: "Preparatory measures for the European Year of Languages 2001".

2e.^{109} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2001, participate in the following programme:

- **32000 D 1934**: Decision No 1934/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 on the European Year of Languages 2001 (OJ L 232, 14.9.2000, p. 1).

2f.^{110} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2001, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget lines, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2001, 2002 and 2003:

- **B3-1 0 0 0A**: "Preparatory actions for cooperation in the fields of education and of youth policy expenditure on administrative management";
- **B3-1 0 0 0**: "Preparatory actions for cooperation in the fields of education and of youth policy".

2g.^{111} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2003, participate in the following action:

- **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), as amended by:

-^{112} **32004 D 0786**: Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),

-^{113} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).

2h.^{114} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2004, participate in the following programmes:

- **32003 D 2317**: Decision No 2317/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 December 2003 establishing a programme for the enhancement of quality in higher education and the promotion of intercultural understanding through co-operation with third countries (Erasmus Mundus) (2004-2008) (OJ L 345, 31.12.2003, p. 1).

2i.^{115} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2004, participate in the following programme:

- **32003 D 2318**: Decision No 2318/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 December 2003 adopting a multi annual programme (2004 to 2006) for the effective integration of

^{107} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005

^{108} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 45/2000 (OJ L 174, 13.7.2000, p. 57 and EEA Supplement No 32, 13.7.2000, p. 6), e.i.f. 20.5.2000.

^{109} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 112/2000 (OJ L 52, 22.2.2001, p. 37 and EEA Supplement No 9, 22.2.2001, p. 4), e.i.f. 16.12.2000.

^{110} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 98/2001 (OJ L 251, 20.9.2001, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 47, 20.9.2001, p.12), e.i.f. 14.7.2001 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 67/2002 (OJ L 238, 5.9.2002, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 44, 5.9.2002, p. 25), e.i.f. 1.6.2002 and by Decision No 64/2003 (OJ L 193, 31.7.2003, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 39, 31.7.2003, p. 32), e.i.f. 17.5.2003.

^{111} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 85/2003 (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 28), e.i.f. 2.12.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

^{112} Indent and words "as amended by:" above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{113} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{114} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 66/2004 (OJ L 277, 26.8.2004, p. 183 and EEA Supplement No 43, 26.8.2004, p. 166), e.i.f. 17.6.2004.

^{115} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 67/2004 (OJ L 277, 26.8.2004, p. 185 and EEA Supplement No 43, 26.8.2004, p. 167), e.i.f. 27.4.2004.

information and communication technologies (ICT) in education and training systems in Europe (eLearning Programme) (OJ L 345, 31.12.2003, p. 9).

2j.^{116} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2004, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2004:

- **Budget line 15.07.03:** “Pilot projects for participation of young people”.

2k.^{117} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2005, participate in the following programmes:

- **32004 D 0790:** Decision No 790/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 establishing a Community action programme to promote bodies active at European level in the field of youth (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 24),
- ^{118} **32004 D 0791:** Decision No 791/2004/EC of the European Parliament and the Council establishing a Community action programme to promote bodies active at European level and support specific activities in the field of education and training (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 31).

The provisions of the Decision shall, for the purposes of the present Agreement, be read with the following adaptation:

The EFTA States shall participate in Action 2, 3A, 3B and 3C of the programme.

- ^{119} **32004 D 2241:** Decision No 2241/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 on a single Community framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences (Europass) (OJ L 390, 31.12.2004, p. 6).

2l.^{120} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2007, participate in the following programmes:

- **32006 D 1719:** Decision No 1719/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2006 establishing the ‘Youth in Action’ programme for the period 2007 to 2013 (OJ L 327, 24.11.2006, p. 30),
- **32006 D 1720:** Decision No 1720/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2006 establishing an action programme in the field of lifelong learning (OJ L 327, 24.11.2006, p. 45).

2m.^{121} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2009, participate in actions 1 and 3 of the following programme:

- **32008 D 1298:** Decision 1298/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 establishing the Erasmus Mundus 2009-2013 action programme for the enhancement of quality in higher education and the promotion of intercultural understanding through cooperation with third countries (OJ L 340, 19.12.2008, p. 83).

2n.^{122} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2014, participate in the following programme:

- **32013 R 1288:** Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing ‘Erasmus+’: the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport and repealing Decisions No 1719/2006/EC, No 1720/2006/EC and No 1298/2008/EC (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 50), as amended by:

^{116} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 115/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 1), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

^{117} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 183/2004 (OJ L 133, 26.5.2005, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 26, 26.5.2005, p. 33), e.i.f. 17.12.2004.

^{118} Indent added and word “programme” above replaced by “programmes” by Decision No 182/2004 (OJ L 133, 26.5.2005, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 26, 26.5.2005, p. 32), e.i.f. 17.12.2004, as corrected by Corrigendum noted by the EEA Joint Committee Meeting on 4.2.2005.

^{119} Indent added by Decision No 88/2005 (OJ L 268, 13.10.2005, p. 24 and EEA Supplement No 52, 13.10.2005, p. 14), e.i.f. 11.6.2005.

^{120} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 64/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 2), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

^{121} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 91/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 23), e.i.f. 23.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009.

^{122} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 110/2014 (OJ L 310, 30.10.2014, p. 82 and EEA Supplement No 63, 30.10.2014, p. 70), e.i.f. 17.5.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

-^{123} **32018 R 1475**: Regulation (EU) 2018/1475 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 October 2018 (OJ L 250, 4.10.2018, p. 1),

-^{124} **32019 R 0499**: Regulation (EU) 2019/499 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 March 2019 laying down provisions for the continuation of ongoing learning mobility activities under the Erasmus+ programme established by Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013, in the context of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union (OJ L 85I, 27.3.2019, p. 32).

2o.^{125} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2019, participate in the following programme:

- **32018 R 1475**: Regulation (EU) 2018/1475 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 October 2018 laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps and amending Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013, Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and Decision No 1313/2013/EU (OJ L 250, 4.10.2018, p. 1).

Liechtenstein and Norway shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

2p.^{126} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2019, participate in the following European framework:

- **32018 D 0646**: Decision (EU) 2018/646 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 April 2018 on a common framework for the provision of better services for skills and qualifications (Europass) and repealing Decision No 2241/2004/EC (OJ L 112, 2.5.2018, p. 42).

2q. ^{127} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2021, participate in the following programme:

- **32021 R 0817**: Regulation (EU) 2021/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing Erasmus+: the Union Programme for education and training, youth and sport and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 1).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 266/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

2r. ^{128} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2021, participate in the following European programme:

- **32021 R 0888**: Regulation (EU) 2021/888 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing the European Solidarity Corps Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) 2018/1475 and (EU) No 375/2014 (OJ L 202, 8.6.2021, p. 32).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 267/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Norway shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

2s.^{129} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2022, participate in the following action:

- **32021 D 2316**: Decision (EU) 2021/2316 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 2021 on a European Year of Youth (2022) (OJ L 462, 28.12.2021, p. 1).

^{123} Indent and words “, as amended by:” added by Decision No 136/2019 (OJ L 279, 27.10.2022, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 69, 27.10.2022, p. 45), e.i.f. 9.5.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019.

^{124} Indent added by Decision No 182/2019 (OJ L 291, 10.11.2022, p. 75 and EEA Supplement No 74, 10.11.2022, p. 79), e.i.f. 15.6.2019.

^{125} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 136/2019 (OJ L 279, 27.10.2022, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 69, 27.10.2022, p. 45), e.i.f. 9.5.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019.

^{126} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 181/2019 (OJ L 291, 10.11.2022, p. 73 and EEA Supplement No 74, 10.11.2022, p. 77), e.i.f. 15.6.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019.

^{127} Paragraph and adaptation text inserted by Decision No 266/2021 (OJ L, 2024/487, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 73), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

^{128} Paragraph and adaptation text inserted by Decision No 267/2021 (OJ L, 2024/481, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 75), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

^{129} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 271/2022 (OJ L 106, 20.4.2023, p. 77 and EEA Supplement No 31, 20.4.2023, p. 72), e.i.f. 24.9.2022. It shall apply from 1.1.2022.

- 3.{¹³⁰} The EFTA States shall contribute financially in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 2i, 2j, 2k, 2l, 2m, 2n, 2o, 2p, 2q and 2r.
4. The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in programmes to which they contribute financially in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a), participate fully in all the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of these programmes.
- 5.{¹³¹} The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the various activities of the Community, including EURYDICE and ARION, involving the exchange of information including, where appropriate, contacts and meetings of experts, seminars and conferences. The Contracting Parties shall, furthermore, through the EEA Joint Committee or otherwise, take any other initiatives which may appear appropriate in this regard.
- 6.{¹³²} (a) The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2023, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:
- **32019 R 0128**: Regulation (EU) 2019/128 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 337/75 (OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 90).
- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.
- (c) The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Management Board of Cedefop.
- (d) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(a) and 82(3)(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Executive Director of Cedefop.
- (e) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(e), 82(3)(e) and 85(3) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, the languages referred to in Article 129(1) of the Agreement shall be considered by Cedefop, in respect of its staff, as languages of the Union referred to in Article 55(1) of the Treaty on European Union
- (f) Cedefop shall have legal personality. It shall enjoy in all the States of the Contracting Parties the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under their laws.
- (g) The EFTA States shall grant privileges and immunities to Cedefop and its staff equivalent to those contained in the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the European Union.
- (h) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the

¹³⁰ Text replaced by Decision No 172/1999 (OJ L 61, 1.3.2001, p. 31 and EEA Supplement No 11, 1.3.2001, p. 252), e.i.f. 29.2.2000, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 45/2000 (OJ L 174, 13.7.2000, p. 57 and EEA Supplement No 32, 13.7.2000, p. 6), e.i.f. 20.5.2000, and by Decision No 112/2000 (OJ L 52, 22.2.2001, p. 37 and EEA Supplement No 9, 22.2.2001, p. 4), e.i.f. 16.12.2000, and by Decision No 98/2001 (OJ L 251, 20.9.2001, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 47, 20.9.2001, p. 12), e.i.f. 14.7.2001. Words “2e and 2f” replaced by words “2e, 2f and 2g” by Decision No 85/2003 (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 28), e.i.f. 2.12.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 67/2004 (OJ L 277, 26.8.2004, p. 185 and EEA Supplement No 43, 26.8.2004, p. 167), e.i.f. 27.4.2004, and by Decision No 115/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 1), e.i.f. 7.8.2004, and by Decision No 183/2004 (OJ L 133, 26.5.2005, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 26, 26.5.2005, p. 33), e.i.f. 17.12.2004, it shall apply from 1.1.2005, and by Decision No 64/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 2), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 91/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 45 and EEA Supplements No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 23), e.i.f. 23.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 110/2014 (OJ L 310, 30.10.2014, p. 82 and EEA Supplement No 63, 30.10.2014, p. 70), e.i.f. 17.5.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 136/2019 (OJ L 279, 27.10.2022, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 69, 27.10.2022, p. 45), e.i.f. 9.5.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 181/2019 (OJ L 291, 10.11.2022, p. 73 and EEA Supplement No 74, 10.11.2022, p. 77), e.i.f. 15.6.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 266/2021 (OJ L, 2024/487, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 73), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 267/2021 (OJ L, 2024/481, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 75), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

¹³¹ First sentence, introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former first sentence.

¹³² Paragraph 2 introduced by Decision No 11/94 (OJ L 253, 29.9.1994, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 36, 29.9.1994, p. 3) e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former paragraph 2 of Article 3, subsequently replaced by Decision No 140/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 23 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 26), e.i.f. 14.7.2012 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 28/2023 (OJ L, 2023/2303, 19.10.2023 and EEA Supplement No 75, 19.10.2023, p. 44), e.i.f. 21.6.2023. It shall apply from 1 January 2023.

application of Regulation (EU) 2019/128, apply to any documents of Cedefop regarding the EFTA States as well.

7.{¹³³} The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:

- **398 X 0561:** Council Recommendation 98/561/EC of 24 September 1998 on European cooperation in quality assurance in higher education (OJ L 270, 7.10.1998, p. 56),
- **32001 X 0166:** Recommendation 2001/166/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2001 on European cooperation in quality evaluation in school education (OJ L 60, 1.3.2001, p. 51).
- {¹³⁴} **32006 H 0961:** Recommendation 2006/961/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 on transnational mobility within the Community for education and training purposes: European Quality Charter for Mobility (OJ L 394, 30.12.2006, p. 5),
- {¹³⁵} **32006 H 0962:** Recommendation 2006/962/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 on key competences for lifelong learning (OJ L 394, 30.12.2006, p. 10).

8. {¹³⁶} The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of the following Community acts:

- **32008 H 0506(01):** Recommendation 2008/C 111/01 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2008 on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (OJ C 111, 6.5.2008, p. 1),
- {¹³⁷} **32008 H 1213:** Council Recommendation 2008/C 319/03 of 20 November 2008 on the mobility of young volunteers across the European Union (OJ C 319, 13.12.2008, p. 8),
- {¹³⁸} **32009 H 0708(01):** Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council 2009/C 155/01 of 18 June 2009 on the establishment of a European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training (OJ C 155, 8.7.2009, p. 1),
- **32009 H 0708(02):** Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council 2009/C 155/02 of 18 June 2009 on the establishment of a European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) (OJ C 155, 8.7.2009, p. 11),
- {¹³⁹} **32012 H 1222(01):** Council Recommendation 2012/C 398/01 of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning (OJ C 398, 22.12.2012, p. 1),
- {¹⁴⁰} **32017 H 0615:** Council recommendation of 22 May 2017 on the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning and repealing the recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2008 on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (OJ C 189, 15.6.2017, p. 15),
- {¹⁴¹} **32018 H 0502:** Council Recommendation of 15 March 2018 on a European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships (OJ C 153, 2.5.2018, p. 1),

¹³³ Paragraph inserted by Decision No 165/2001 (OJ L 65, 7.3.2002, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 13, 7.3.2002, p.27), e.i.f. 12.12.2001.

¹³⁴ Indent inserted by Decision No 19/2008 (OJ L 154, 12.6.2008, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 33, 12.6.2008, p. 26), e.i.f. 2.2.2008.

¹³⁵ Indent inserted by Decision No 19/2008 (OJ L 154, 12.6.2008, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 33, 12.6.2008, p. 26), e.i.f. 2.2.2008.

¹³⁶ Paragraph inserted by Decision No 40/2009 (OJ L 130, 28.5.2009, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 28, 28.5.2009, p. 35), e.i.f. 18.3.2009.

¹³⁷ Indent added by Decision No 16/2010 (OJ L 101, 22.4.2010, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 19, 22.4.2010, p. 29), e.i.f. 30.1.2010.

¹³⁸ Two indents added by Decision No 57/2010 (OJ L 181, 15.7.2010, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 37, 15.7.2010, p. 35), e.i.f. 1.5.2010.

¹³⁹ Indent added by Decision No 202/2014 (OJ L 202, 30.7.2015, p. 56 and EEA Supplement No 43, 30.7.2015, p. 56), e.i.f. 26.9.2014.

¹⁴⁰ Indent added by Decision No 76/2018 (OJ L 26, 30.1.2020, p. 75 and EEA Supplement No 6, 30.1.2020, p. 66), e.i.f. 24.3.2018.

¹⁴¹ Indent added by Decision No 221/2018 (OJ L 105, 25.3.2021, p. 20 and EEA Supplement No 21, 25.3.2021, p. 19), e.i.f. 27.10.2018.

-{¹⁴²} **32023 D 0936**: Decision (EU) 2023/936 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 May 2023 on a European Year of Skills (OJ L 125, 11.5.2023, p. 1).’

Article 5

Social policy

1. In the field of social policy, the dialogue referred to in Article 79 (1) of the Agreement shall comprise, inter alia, the holding of meetings, including contacts between experts, the examination of questions of mutual interest in specific fields, the exchange of information on activities of the Contracting Parties, stock-taking of the state of cooperation and the carrying out, in common, of activities such as seminars and conferences.

2. The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:
 - **388 Y 0203**: Council Resolution of 21 December 1987 on safety, hygiene and health at work (OJ No C 28, 3.2.1988, p. 3),

 - **391 Y 0531**: Council Resolution of 21 May 1991 on the third medium-term Community action programme on equal opportunities for women and men (1991-95) (OJ No C 142, 31.5.1991, p. 1),

 - {¹⁴³} **395 D 0593**: Council Decision of 22 December 1995 on a medium-term Community action programme on equal opportunities for men and women (1996-2000) (OJ No L 335, 30.12.1995, p. 37),

The EFTA States shall participate in this Community action programme in accordance with the provisions laid down in Appendix 2 to this Protocol.

 - **390 Y 627(06)**: Council Resolution of 29 May 1990 on action to assist the long-term unemployed (OJ No C 157, 27.6.1990, p. 4),

 - **386 X 0379**: Council Recommendation 86/379/EEC of 24 July 1986 on the employment of disabled people in the Community (OJ No L 225, 12.8.1986, p. 43),

 - **389 D 0457**: Council Decision 89/457/EEC of 18 July 1989 establishing a medium-term Community action programme concerning the economic and social integration of the economically and socially less privileged groups in the society (OJ No L 224, 2.8.1989, p. 10).

3. The EFTA States shall, from the entry into force of the Agreement, participate within the framework of the Community actions for the elderly⁽¹⁾{¹⁴⁴}.

⁽¹⁾ **391 D 0049**: Council Decision 91/49/EEC of 26 November 1990 (OJ No L 28, 2.2.1991, p. 29). With regard to Council Decision 91/49/EEC, it is agreed that the EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, contribute to the administrative costs related to the follow-up actions of the Community covered by the budget line B3-4104, "measures for elderly persons".

The EFTA States shall contribute financially in accordance with Article 82 (1) (b) of the Agreement.

The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of the programme except for matters relating to the distribution of EC financial resources between Member States of the Community.

{¹⁴²} Indent added by Decision No 244/2023 (OJ L [to be published] and EEA Supplement No [to be published]), e.i.f. 23.9.2023.

{¹⁴³} Indent added by Decision No 55/96 (OJ L 85, 27.3.1997, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 13, 27.3.1997, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.5.1997.

{¹⁴⁴} Second sentence of the footnote added by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995.

- 4.^{145} The EFTA States shall, during 1995, participate in the Community actions to assist disabled people according to the Work Programme in Appendix 1^{146} to this Protocol. The EFTA States shall contribute financially in accordance with the "Budgetary Aspects" section of that Work Programme during this period.
- 5.^{147} The EFTA States shall participate in the Community programmes and actions referred to in the first two indents of paragraph 8 as from 1 January 1996, in the programme referred to in the third indent as from 1 January 2000, in the programme referred to in the fourth indent as from 1 January 2001, in the programmes referred to in the fifth and sixth indents as from 1 January 2002, in the programmes referred to in the seventh and eighth indents as from 1 January 2004, in the programmes referred to in the ninth, tenth and eleventh indents as from 1 January 2007, in the programme referred to in the twelfth indent as from 1 January 2009, in the programme referred to in the thirteenth indent as from 1 January 2012, in the programme referred to in the fourteenth indent as from 1 January 2014, in the programme referred to in the fifteenth indent as from 1 January 2018, in the actions funded from the budget lines for the financial years 2012 and 2013 referred to in paragraph 12 as from 1 January 2012, in the actions funded from the budget line for the financial years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 referred to in paragraph 13 as from 1 January 2014 and in the actions funded from the budget line for the financial years 2021, 2022 and 2023 referred to in paragraph 14 as from 1 January 2021.^{148}
- 6.^{149} From that date, the EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraphs 8, 12, 13 and 14 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.
- 7.^{150} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of the cooperation in the programmes and actions referred to in paragraphs 8, 12, 13 and 14, participate fully in the EC committees which assist the Commission in the management or development of these programmes and actions.

^{145} Paragraphs 4-8 inserted by Decision No 35/95 (OJ L 205, 31.8.1995, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 32, 31.8.1995, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.2.1996.

^{146} Appendix added by Decision No 35/95 (OJ L 205, 31.8.1995, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 32, 31.8.1995, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.2.1996.

^{147} Paragraph replaced by Decision No 88/2001 (OJ L 238, 6.9.2001, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 44, 6.9.2001, p. 34), e.i.f. 20.6.2001, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 111/2002 (OJ L 298, 31.10.2002, p. 37 and EEA Supplement No 54, 31.10.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 17.7.2002, and by Decision No 181/2003 (OJ L 88, 25.3.2004, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 15, 25.3.2004, p. 19), e.i.f. 20.12.2003, and by Decision No 160/2004 (OJ L 102, 21.4.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 20, 21.4.2005, p. 27), e.i.f. 30.10.2004, and by Decision No 138/2006 (OJ L 366, 21.12.2006, p. 83 and EEA Supplement No 64, 21.12.2006, p. 11), e.i.f. 28.10.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2007, and by Decision No 65/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 3), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 131/2007 (OJ L 47, 21.2.2008, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 9, 21.2.2008, p. 49), applicable from 1.1.2007, e.i.f. 14.5.2008 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 92/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 25), e.i.f. 4.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009 and replaced by Decision No 122/2012 (OJ L 270, 4.10.2012, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 56, 4.10.2012, p. 48), e.i.f. 16.6.2012, it shall apply from 1.1.2012 and replaced by Decision No 141/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 28), e.i.f. 14.7.2012, it shall apply from 1.1.2012 subsequently the words "year 2012" replaced by Decision No 101/2013 (OJ L 291, 31.10.2013, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 61, 31.10.2013, p. 75), e.i.f. 4.5.2013, it shall apply from 1.1.2013; subsequently replaced by Decision No 148/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 56), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words "in the programme referred to in the fourteenth indent "as from January 2014" inserted by Decision No 158/2014 (OJ L 15, 22.1.2015, p. 86 and EEA Supplement No 5, 22.1.2015, p. 9), e.i.f. 10.7.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words "the financial year 2014" replaced by words "the financial years 2014 and 2015" by Decision No 173/2015 (OJ L 341, 15.12.2016, p. 74 and EEA Supplement No 69, 15.12.2016, p. 75), e.i.f. 12.6.2015; it shall apply from 1.1.2015. Words "and 2015" replaced by words "2015 and 2016" by Decision No 132/2016 (OJ L 308, 23.11.2017, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 76, 23.11.2017, p. 44), e.i.f. 4.6.2016; it shall apply from 1 January 2016. Words "and 2016" replaced by words "2016 and 2017" by Decision No 149/2017 (OJ L 128, 16.5.2019, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 40, 16.5.2019, p. 51), e.i.f. 8.7.2017; it shall apply from 1 January 2017. The words "in the programme referred to in the fifteenth indent as from 1 January 2018" inserted after the words "in the programme referred to in the fourteenth indent as from 1 January 2014" by Decision No 170/2018 (OJ L 67, 25.2.2021, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 13, 25.2.2021, p. 72), e.i.f. 7.7.2018, it shall apply from 1.1.2018. The words "financial year 2021" are replaced by the words "financial years 2021 and 2022" by Decision 225/2022 (OJ L 85, 23.3.2023, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 24, 23.3.2023, p. 42), e.i.f. 9.7.2022. It shall apply from 1 January 2022.

^{148} Words "and 2017" replaced by the words "2017 and 2018" by Decision No 120/2018 (OJ L 368, 5.11.2020, p. 21 and EEA Supplement No 71, 5.11.2020, p. 24), e.i.f. 1.6.2018, it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words "and 2018" replaced by the words "2018 and 2019" by Decision No 202/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 41), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019. Words "and 2019" replaced by the words "2019 and 2020" by Decision No 172/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 40), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020. The words "and in the actions funded from the budget line for the financial years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 referred to in paragraph 13 as from 1 January 2014" are replaced by the words "in the actions funded from the budget line for the financial years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 referred to in paragraph 13 as from 1 January 2014 and in the actions funded from the budget line for the financial year 2021 referred to in paragraph 14 as from 1 January 2021" by Decision No 273/2021 (OJ L, 2024/477, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 88), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1 January 2021. Words "financial years 2021 and 2022" are replaced by the words "financial years 2021, 2022 and 2023" by Decision No 174/2023 (OJ L, 2023/02570, 30.11.2023 and EEA Supplement No 87, 30.11.2023, p. 50), e.i.f. 14.6.2023.

^{149} The words "paragraph 8" shall be replaced by "paragraphs 8 and 12" by Decision No 141/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 28), e.i.f. 14.7.2012. It shall apply from 1.1.2012. Words "paragraphs 8 and 12" replaced by words "paragraphs 8, 12 and 13" by Decision No 148/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 56), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words "paragraphs 8, 12 and 13" replaced by words "paragraphs 8, 12, 13 and 14" by Decision No 273/2021 (OJ L, 2024/477, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 88), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

^{150} The words "paragraph 8" shall be replaced by "paragraphs 8 and 12" by Decision No 141/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 28), e.i.f. 14.7.2012. It shall apply from 1.1.2012. Words "paragraphs 8 and 12" replaced by words "paragraphs 8, 12 and 13" by Decision No 148/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 56), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words "paragraphs 8, 12 and 13" replaced by words "paragraphs 8, 12, 13 and 14" by Decision No 273/2021 (OJ L, 2024/477, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 88), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

8. The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:
- **393 D 0136:** Council Decision 93/136/EEC of 25 February 1993 establishing a third Community action programme to assist disabled people (Helios II 1993 to 1996) (OJ No L 56, 9.3.1993, p. 30),
 - **394 D 0782:** Council Decision 94/782/EC of 6 December 1994 concerning the continuance of the Handynet system in the framework of the activities undertaken to date on the first technical aids module (OJ No L 316, 9.12.1994, p. 42),
 - ^{151} **32000 D 0293:** Decision No 293/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 January 2000 adopting a programme of Community action (the Daphne programme) (2000 to 2003) on preventive measures to fight violence against children, young persons and women (OJ L 34, 9.2.2000, p. 1),
 - ^{152} **32001 D 0051:** Council Decision 2001/51/EC of 20 December 2000 establishing a Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001-2005) (OJ L 17, 19.1.2001, p. 22), as amended by:
 - ^{153} **32005 D 1554:** Decision No 1554/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 (OJ L 255, 30.9.2005, p. 9).
 - ^{154} **32001 D 0903:** Council Decision 2001/903/EC of 3 December 2001 on the European Year of People with Disabilities 2003 (OJ L 335, 19.12.2001, p. 15),
 - ^{155} **32002 D 0050:** Decision No 50/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 December 2001 establishing a programme of Community action to encourage cooperation between Member States to combat social exclusion (OJ L 10, 12.1.2002, p. 1), as amended by:
 - ^{156} **32004 D 0786:** Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7).
 - ^{157} **32000 D 0750:** Council Decision 2000/750/EC of 27 November 2000 establishing a Community Action Programme to combat discrimination (2001 to 2006) (OJ L 303, 2.12.2000, p. 23),
 - ^{158} **32004 D 0803:** Decision No 803/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 adopting a programme of Community action (2004 to 2008) to prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk (the DAPHNE II programme) (OJ L 143, 30.4.2004, p. 1),
 - ^{159} **32006 D 0771:** Decision No 771/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 establishing the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All (2007) - towards a just society (OJ L 146, 31.5.2006, p. 1),

^{151} Indent added by Decision No 39/2000 (OJ L 141, 15.6.2000, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 27, 15.6.2000, p. 25), e.i.f. 28.6.2000.

^{152} Indent added by Decision No 88/2001 (OJ L 238, 6.9.2001, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 44, 6.9.2001, p. 34), e.i.f. 20.6.2001.

^{153} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 39/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 61 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 26), e.i.f. 11.3.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{154} Indent added by Decision No 94/2002 (OJ L 266, 3.10.2002, p. 71 and EEA Supplement No 49, 3.10.2002, p. 52), e.i.f. 26.6.2002.

^{155} Indent added by Decision No 111/2002 (OJ L 298, 31.10.2002, p. 37 and EEA Supplement No 54, 31.10.2002, p. 24), e.i.f. 17.7.2002.

^{156} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{157} Indent added by Decision No 181/2003 (OJ L 88, 25.3.2004, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 15, 25.3.2003, p. 19), e.i.f. 20.12.2003.

^{158} Indent added by Decision No 160/2004 (OJ L 102, 21.4.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 20, 21.4.2005, p. 27), e.i.f. 30.10.2004, it shall apply from 1.1.2004.

^{159} Indent added by Decision No 138/2006 (OJ L 366, 21.12.2006, p. 83 and EEA Supplement No 64, 21.12.2006, p. 11), e.i.f. 28.10.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

- {¹⁶⁰} **32006 D 1672:** Decision No 1672/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – Progress (OJ L 315, 15.11.2006, p. 1), as corrected by OJ L 65, 3.3.2007, p. 12,
- {¹⁶¹} **32007 D 0779:** Decision No 779/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2007 establishing for the period 2007-2013 a specific programme to prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk (Daphne III programme) as part of the General Programme ‘Fundamental Rights and Justice’ (OJ L 173, 3.7.2007, p. 19),
- {¹⁶²} **32008 D 1098:** Decision No 1098/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2008 on the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion (2010) (OJ L 298, 7.11.2008, p. 20),
- {¹⁶³} **32011 D 0940:** Decision No 940/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2011 on the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (2012) (OJ L 246, 23.09.2011, p. 5),
- {¹⁶⁴} **32013 R 1381:** Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020 (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 62),

Liechtenstein shall only participate in the activities which may result from budget lines 33 01 04 01 Support expenditure for Rights and Citizenship and 33 02 02 Promoting non-discrimination and equality.

Norway shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

- {¹⁶⁵} **32017 D 0864:** Decision (EU) 2017/864 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on a European Year of Cultural Heritage (2018) (OJ L 131, 20.5.2017, p. 1).

9.{¹⁶⁶} The EEA Joint Committee shall take the necessary decisions in order to facilitate cooperation between the Contracting Parties in future programmes and activities of the Community in the social field.

10. The Contracting Parties shall encourage appropriate cooperation between the competent organizations, institutions and other bodies in their respective territories where this would contribute to the strengthening and broadening of cooperation. This shall apply in particular to matters covered by the activities of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Working and Living Conditions.⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ **375 R 1365:** Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75 of the Council of 26 May 1975 on the creation of a European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (OJ No L 139, 30.5.1975, p.1), as amended by:

-**1 79 H:** Act concerning the Conditions of Accession and Adjustment to the Treaties - Accession of the Hellenic Republic (OJ No L 291, 19.11.1979, p.17),

-**1 85 I:** Act concerning the Conditions of Accession and Adjustments to the Treaties - Accession of the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic (OJ No L 302, 15.11.85, p. 157 and 158),

-{¹⁶⁷} **1 03 T:** Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded adopted on 16 April 2003 (OJ L 236, 23.9.2003, p. 33),

{¹⁶⁰} Indent added by Decision No 65/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 1), e.i.f. 16.6.2007; it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{¹⁶¹} Indent added by Decision No 131/2007 (OJ L 47, 21.2.2008, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 9, 21.2.2008, p. 49), e.i.f. 14.5.2008.

{¹⁶²} Indent added by Decision No 92/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 25), e.i.f. 4.7.2009; it shall apply from 1.1.2009.

{¹⁶³} Indent added by Decision No 122/2012 (OJ L 270, 4.10.2012, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 56, 4.10.2012, p. 48), e.i.f. 16.6.2012; it shall apply from 1.1.2012.

{¹⁶⁴} Indent added by Decision No 158/2014 (OJ L 15, 22.1.2015, p. 86 and EEA Supplement No 5, 22.1.2015, p. 9), e.i.f. 10.7.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{¹⁶⁵} Indent added by Decision No 170/2018 (OJ L 67, 25.2.2021, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 13, 25.2.2021, p. 72), e.i.f. 1.6.2018, it shall apply from 1.1.2018.

{¹⁶⁶} Former paragraphs 4 and 5 became paragraphs 9 and 10 by Decision No 35/95 (OJ L 205, 31.8.1995, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 32, 31.8.1995, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995.

{¹⁶⁷} Indent added by the 2004 EEA Enlargement Agreement (OJ L 130, 29.4.2004, p. 3 and EEA Supplement No 23, 29.4.2004, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.5.2004.

-^{168} **1 94 N:** Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden and the adjustments of the Treaties on which the European Union is founded (OJ C 241, 29.8.1994, p. 21 as amended by OJ L 1, 1.1.1995, p. 1).

11.^{169} (a) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), hereinafter referred to as the “Agency”, as set up by the following Union act:

- **32019 R 0126:** Regulation (EU) 2019/126 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2062/94 (OJ L 30, 31.1.2019, p. 58).

(b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) and Protocol 32 of the Agreement.

(c) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the Management Board and shall within it have the same rights and obligations as EU Member States, except for the right to vote.

(d) The term ‘Member State(s)’ and other terms referring to their public entities contained in Article 12 of the Regulation shall be understood to include, in addition to their meaning in the Regulation, the EFTA States and their public entities.

(e) The Agency shall have legal personality. It shall enjoy in all the states of the Contracting Parties the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under their laws.

(f) The EFTA States shall grant privileges and immunities to the Agency and its staff equivalent to those contained in the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the European Union.

(g) By way of derogation from Article 12(2)(a) and 82(3)(a) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, nationals of EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Executive Director of the Agency.

(h) By way of derogation from Articles 12(2)(e), 82(3)(e) and 85(3) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, the languages referred to in Article 129(1) of the Agreement shall be considered by the Agency, in respect of its staff, as languages of the Union referred to in Article 55(1) of the Treaty on European Union.

(i) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement, Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement shall apply to this paragraph.

(j) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents¹⁷⁰ shall, for the application of Regulation (EU) 2019/126, apply to any documents of the Agency regarding the EFTA States as well.

12.^{171} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2012, participate in the actions funded from the following budget lines, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2012 and 2013:

- **Budget line 04 01 04 08:** “Free movement of workers, coordination of social security systems and measures for migrants, including migrants from third countries – Expenditure on administrative management”,

- **Budget line 04 03 05:** “Free movement of workers, coordination of social security systems and measures for migrants, including migrants from third countries”.

^{168} Indent added by Decision No 43/2005 (OJ L 198, 28.7.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 38, 28.7.2005, p. 26), e.i.f. 12.3.2005.

^{169} Paragraph added by Decision No 160/2009 (OJ L 62, 11.3.2010, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 12, 11.3.2010, p. 65), e.i.f. 15.4.2010, it shall apply from 1.1.2010 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 109/2023 (OJ L, 2023/02262, 9.11.2023 and EEA Supplement No 81, 9.11.2023, p. 58), e.i.f. 29.4.2023.

¹⁷⁰ OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

^{171} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 141/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 28), e.i.f. 14.7.2012, it shall apply from 1.1.2012; subsequently the words “year 2012” are replaced by Decision No 101/2013 (OJ L 291, 31.10.2013, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 61, 31.10.2013, p. 75), e.i.f. 4.5.2013; it shall apply from 1.1.2013.

13. {¹⁷²} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2014, participate in the actions funded from the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020{¹⁷³}:
 - **Budget line 04 03 01 03:** “Free movement of workers, co-ordination of social security schemes and measures for migrants including migrants from third countries”.
14. {¹⁷⁴} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2021, participate in the actions funded from the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2021, 2022 and 2023.
 - **Budget line 07 20 03 01:** “Free movement of workers, coordination of social security schemes and measures for migrants including migrants from third countries”.
- The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 273/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Article 6

Consumer protection

1. In the field of consumer protection, the Contracting Parties shall strengthen the dialogue between them by all appropriate means, with a view to identifying areas and activities where closer cooperation could contribute to the attainment of their objectives.
2. The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities, which may result from the following Community acts, in particular in ensuring consumer influence and participation:
 -{¹⁷⁵} **392 Y 0723:** Council Resolution of 13 July 1992 on future priorities for the development of consumer protection policy (OJ No C 186, 23.7.1992, p. 1),
 -{¹⁷⁶} **593 DC 0378:** Second Commission three-year plan 1993-1995,
 - **388 Y 1117(01):** Council Resolution of 4 November 1988 on the improvement of consumer involvement in standardisation (OJ C 293, 17.11.1988, p. 1).
- 3.{¹⁷⁷} The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 2000, participate in the Community activities which may result from the following act as well as from acts deriving therefrom:

{¹⁷²} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 148/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 56), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words “the financial year 2014” replaced by words “the financial years 2014 and 2015” by Decision No 173/2015 (OJ L 341, 15.12.2016, p. 74 and EEA Supplement No 69, 15.12.2016, p. 75), e.i.f. 12.6.2015; it shall apply from 1.1.2015. Words “and 2015” replaced by words “, 2015 and 2016” by Decision No 132/2016 (OJ L 308, 23.11.2017, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 76, 23.11.2017, p. 44), e.i.f. 4.6.2016; it shall apply from 1 January 2016. Words “and 2016” replaced by words “, 2016 and 2017” by Decision No 149/2017 (OJ L 128, 16.5.2019, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 40, 16.5.2019, p. 51), e.i.f. 8.7.2017; it shall apply from 1 January 2017.

{¹⁷³} Words “and 2017” replaced by the words “, 2017 and 2018” by Decision No 120/2018 (OJ L 368, 5.11.2020, p. 21 and EEA Supplement No 71, 5.11.2020, p. 24), e.i.f. 1.6.2018, it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words “and 2018” replaced by the words “, 2018 and 2019” by Decision No 202/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 41), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019. Words “and 2019” replaced by the words “2019 and 2020” by Decision No 172/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 40), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020.

{¹⁷⁴} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 273/2021 (OJ L, 2024/477, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 88), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021. The words “financial year 2021” are replaced by the words “financial years 2021 and 2022” by Decision 225/2022 (OJ L 85, 23.3.2023, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 24, 23.3.2023, p. 42), e.i.f. 9.7.2022. It shall apply from 1 January 2022. Words “financial years 2021 and 2022” are replaced by the words “financial years 2021, 2022 and 2023” by Decision No 174/2023 (OJ L, 2023/02570, 30.11.2023 and EEA Supplement No 87, 30.11.2023, p. 50), e.i.f. 14.6.2023.

{¹⁷⁵} This indent, introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former first indent.

{¹⁷⁶} This indent, introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former second indent.

{¹⁷⁷} Paragraph added by Decision No 173/1999 (OJ L 61, 1.3.2001, p. 33 and EEA Supplement No 11, 1.3.2001, p.268), e.i.f. 1.1.2000.

- **399 D 0283:** Decision No 283/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 January 1999 establishing a general framework for Community activities in favour of consumers (OJ L 34, 9.2.1999, p. 1).

{¹⁷⁸} The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 2004, participate in the Community activities, which may result from the following act as well as from acts deriving therefrom:

- **32004 D 0020:** Decision No 20/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 December 2003 establishing a general framework for financing Community actions in support of consumer policy for the years 2004 to 2007 (OJ L 5, 9.1.2004, p. 1), as amended by:

-{¹⁷⁹} **32004 D 0786:** Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7).

3a.{¹⁸⁰} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2007, participate in the following programme:

- **32006 D 1926:** Decision No 1926/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a programme of Community action in the field of consumer policy (2007-2013) (OJ L 404, 30.12.2006, p. 39).

3b.{¹⁸¹} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2014, participate in the following programme:

- **32014 R 0254:** Regulation (EU) No 254/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on a multiannual consumer programme for the years 2014-20 and repealing Decision No 1926/2006/EC (OJ L 84, 20.3.2014, p. 42).

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 251/2014 of 13 November 2014 enters into force before the end of the action.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

4.{¹⁸²} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in paragraphs 3, 3a and 3b in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.

5.{¹⁸³} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the activities referred to in paragraphs 3, 3a and 3b, participate fully, without the right to vote, in the EC committees and other bodies which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of these activities.

Article 7

{¹⁷⁸} Sub-paragraph added by Decision No 89/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 51 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 25), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{¹⁷⁹} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{¹⁸⁰} Paragraph added by Decision No 66/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.11.2007, p. 4), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{¹⁸¹} Paragraph added by Decision No 251/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 12), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{¹⁸²} Paragraph 4 added by Decision No 173/1999 (OJ L 61, 1.3.2001, p. 33 and EEA Supplement No 11, 1.3.2001, p.268), e.i.f. 1.1.2000, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 66/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 4), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007. Text of paragraph 4 subsequently replaced by Decision No 251/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 12), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{¹⁸³} Paragraph 5 added by Decision No 173/1999 (OJ L 61, 1.3.2001, p. 33 and EEA Supplement No 11, 1.3.2001, p.268), e.i.f. 1.1.2000, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 66/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 4), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007. Text of paragraph 5 subsequently replaced by Decision No 251/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 12), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

Enterprise, entrepreneurship and small and medium-sized enterprises ^{184}

1. The cooperation in the field of small and medium-sized enterprises shall in particular be promoted within the framework of actions of the Community:
 - to remove undue administrative, financial and legal constraints on business;
 - to inform and assist enterprises, and in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, on policies and programmes which might be of relevance to them;
 - to encourage cooperation and partnership between enterprises, and in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, from different regions of the European Economic Area.
- 2.^{185} The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the Community programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 5.
- 3.^{186} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in this Article in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.^{187}
- 4.^{188} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of the cooperation in the programmes and actions referred to in this Article, participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of these programmes and actions.^{189}
5. The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:
 - **393 D 0379:** Council Decision 93/379/EEC of 14 June 1993 on a multiannual programme of Community measures to intensify the priority areas and to ensure the continuity and consolidation of policy for enterprise, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, in the Community (OJ L 161, 2.7.1993, p. 68),
 - ^{190} **397 D 0015:** Council Decision 97/15/EC of 9 December 1996 on a third Multiannual Programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 - 2000) (OJ L 6, 10.1.1997, p. 25),

^{184} Title replaced by Decision No 99/2001 (OJ L 251, 20.9.2001, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 47, 20.9.2001, p.13), e.i.f. 14.7.2001.

^{185} Paragraphs 2-5, introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replace former paragraphs 2 and 3.

^{186} Words “paragraph 5” in paragraph 3 replaced by “paragraphs 5 and 6” by Decision No 116/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 3 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 2), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

^{187} Words “paragraphs 5 and 6” replaced by Decision No 74/2006 (OJ L 245, 7.9.2006, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 45, 7.9.2006, p. 38), e.i.f. 3.6.2006, and subsequently replaced by “paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8” by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from 1 January 2008. Words “paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8” replaced by words “paragraphs 5 to 9” by Decision No 250/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 10), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words “paragraphs 5 to 9” subsequently replaced by words “paragraphs 5 to 10” by Decision No 196/2015 (OJ L 8, 12.1.2017, p. 33 and EEA Supplement No 3, 12.1.2017, p. 28), e.i.f. 11.7.2015, it shall apply from 1.1.2015. Words “paragraphs 5 to 10” replaced by words “this Article” by Decision No 133/2016 (OJ L 308, 23.11.2017, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 76, 23.11.2017, p. 45), e.i.f. 4.6.2016; it shall apply from 1 January 2016.

^{188} Words “paragraph 5” in paragraph 4 replaced by “paragraphs 5 and 6” by Decision No 116/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 3 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 2), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

^{189} Words “paragraphs 5 and 6” replaced by Decision No 74/2006 (OJ L 245, 7.9.2006, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 45, 7.9.2006, p. 38), e.i.f. 3.6.2006, and subsequently replaced by “paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8” by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from 1 January 2008. Words “paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8” replaced by words “paragraphs 5 to 9” by Decision No 250/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 10), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words “paragraphs 5 to 9” subsequently replaced by words “paragraphs 5 to 10” by Decision No 196/2015 (OJ L 8, 12.1.2017, p. 33 and EEA Supplement No 3, 12.1.2017, p. 28), e.i.f. 11.7.2015, it shall apply from 1.1.2015. Words “paragraphs 5 to 10” replaced by words “this Article” by Decision No 133/2016 (OJ L 308, 23.11.2017, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 76, 23.11.2017, p. 45), e.i.f. 4.6.2016; it shall apply from 1 January 2016.

^{190} Indent added by Decision No 38/97 (OJ L 160, 4.6.1998, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 22, 4.6.1998, p. 24), e.i.f. 1.2.1998.

- **389 Y 1007(01)**: Council Resolution of 26 September 1989 on the development of subcontracting within the Community (OJ C 254, 7.10.1989, p. 1),
- **390 X 0246**: Council Recommendation of 28 May 1990 relating to the implementation of a policy of administrative simplification in favour of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Member States (OJ L 141, 2.6.1990, p. 55),
- **393 Y 1203(01)**: Council Resolution of 22 November 1993 on strengthening of the competitiveness of enterprises, in particular of small and medium-sized enterprises and craft enterprises, and developing employment (OJ C 326, 3.12.1993, p. 1),
- {¹⁹¹} **398 D 0347**: Council Decision 98/347/EC of 19 May 1998 on measures of financial assistance for innovative and job-creating small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – the growth and employment initiative (OJ L 155, 29.5.1998, p. 43), as far as activities related to budget line B5-511 "Joint European Ventures", entered in the general budget of the European Communities, are concerned,
- {¹⁹²} **32000 D 0819**: Council Decision 2000/819/EC of 20 December 2000 on a multiannual programme for enterprise and entrepreneurship, and in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) (2001-2005) (OJ L 333, 29.12.2000, p. 84), as amended by:
- {¹⁹³} **1 03 T**: Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the European Union is founded adopted on 16 April 2003 (OJ L 236, 23.9.2003, p. 33),
- {¹⁹⁴} **32004 D 0593**: Decision No 593/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 July 2004 (OJ L 268, 16.8.2004, p. 3),
- {¹⁹⁵} **32005 D 1776**: Decision No 1776/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 September 2005 (OJ L 289, 3.11.2005, p. 14).
- {¹⁹⁶} **32006 D 1639**: Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007-2013) (OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 15),
- {¹⁹⁷} **32013 R 1287**: Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014 - 2020) and repealing Decision No 1639/2006/EC (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 33).
Liechtenstein and Norway shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.
- 5a.{¹⁹⁸} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2021, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:

{¹⁹¹} Indent added by Decision No 72/1999 (OJ L 284, 9.11.2000, p. 61 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.11.2000, p. 60), e.i.f. 1.8.1999.

{¹⁹²} Indent added by Decision No 99/2001 (OJ L 251, 20.9.2001, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 47, 20.9.2001, p.13), e.i.f. 14.7.2001.

{¹⁹³} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by the 2004 EEA Enlargement Agreement (OJ L 130, 29.4.2004, p. 3 and EEA Supplement No 23, 29.4.2004, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.5.2004.

{¹⁹⁴} Indent added by Decision No 73/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 66 and EEA Supplement No 46, 15.9.2005, p. 41), e.i.f. 30.4.2005, it shall apply from 1.1.2005.

{¹⁹⁵} Indent added by Decision No 40/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 27), e.i.f. 11.3.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

{¹⁹⁶} Indent added by Decision No 67/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 51 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 5), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{¹⁹⁷} Indent added by Decision No 149/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 59 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 57), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{¹⁹⁸} Paragraph 5a inserted by Decision No 262/2021 (OJ L, 2024/508, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 64), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021.

- **32021 R 0690:** Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014 (OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 1).

The EFTA States shall participate in the general objectives and in the specific objectives according to Article 3(2)(a), (b), (c)(ii) and (d).

They shall participate in and financially contribute to the statistical actions as defined in Article 3(2)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 under the conditions foreseen in Protocol 30.

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 262/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

The EFTA States shall not participate in and shall not financially contribute to activities relating to customs and tax policy development.

Norway shall not participate in and shall not financially contribute to the specific objective according to Article 3(2)(d)(ii).

- 6.^{199} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2004, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget lines, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013^{200}:

- **Budget line 12.01.04.01:** “Implementation and development of the internal market – Expenditure on administrative management”,
- **Budget line 12.02.01:** “Implementation and development of the internal market”.

- 7.^{201} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2006, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013^{202}:

- ^{203} **Budget line 02.03.01:** “Operation and development of the internal market, particularly in the fields of notification, certification and sectoral approximation”.

^{199} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 116/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 3 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 2), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

^{200} Words “years 2004 and 2005” replaced by Decision No 74/2006 (OJ L 245, 7.9.2006, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 45, 7.9.2006, p. 38), e.i.f. 3.6.2006, and subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007” by Decision No 71/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 56 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 10), e.i.f. 30.6.2007; it shall apply from 1.1.2007, and subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 and 2008” by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from January 2008. Subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009” by Decision No 93/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 27), e.i.f. 4.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009. Subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010” by Decision No 96/2010 (OJ L 277, 21.10.2010, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 59, 21.10.2010, p. 23) e.i.f. 3.7.2010. It shall apply from 1 January 2010. Subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011” by Decision No 91/2011 (OJ L 262, 6.10.2011, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 54, 6.10.2011, p. 80), e.i.f. 20.7.2011. It shall apply from 1 January 2011. Subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012” by Decision No 142/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 30), e.i.f. 14.7.2012. It shall apply from 1.1.2012. Subsequently replaced by “years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013” by Decision No 133/2013 (OJ L 345, 19.12.2013, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 72, 19.12.2013, p. 1), e.i.f. 9.7.2013. It shall apply from 1.1.2013.

^{201} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 74/2006 (OJ L 245, 7.9.2006, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 45, 7.9.2006, p. 38), e.i.f. 3.6.2006.

^{202} Words “year 2006” replaced by Decision No 71/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 56 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 10), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007, and subsequently replaced by “years 2006, 2007 and 2008” by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from January 2008, and subsequently replaced by “years 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009” by Decision No 93/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 27), e.i.f. 4.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009. Subsequently replaced by “years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010” by Decision No 96/2010 (OJ L 277, 21.10.2010, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 59, 21.10.2010, p. 23), e.i.f. 3.7.2010. It shall apply from 1 January 2010. Subsequently replaced by “years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011” by Decision No 91/2011 (OJ L 262, 6.10.2011, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 54, 6.10.2011, p. 80), e.i.f. 20.7.2011. It shall apply from 1 January 2011. Subsequently replaced by “years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012” by Decision No 142/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 30), e.i.f. 14.7.2012. It shall apply from 1 January 2012. Subsequently replaced by “years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013” by Decision No 133/2013 (OJ L 345, 19.12.2013, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 72, 19.12.2013, p. 1), e.i.f. 9.7.2013. It shall apply from 1 January 2013.

^{203} Indent replaced by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from 1 January 2008.

8.{²⁰⁴} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2008, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013{²⁰⁵}:

-{²⁰⁶} **Budget line 02.01.04.01:** “Operation and development of the internal market, particularly in the fields of notification, certification and sectoral approximation – Expenditure on administrative management”.

9.{²⁰⁷} 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 250/2014 of 13 November 2014 enters into force before the end of the action.

10.{²⁰⁸}The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2015, participate in the Union actions related to the following budget lines, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015:

- **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”.

11.{²⁰⁹} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2016, participate in the Union actions related to the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020{²¹⁰}:

- **Budget line 12 02 01:** “Implementation and development of the single market for financial services”.

12.{²¹¹}The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2016, participate in the Union actions related to the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020:

{²⁰⁴} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from 1 January 2008.

{²⁰⁵} Words “year 2008” replaced by “years 2008 and 2009” by Decision No 93/2009 (OJ L 277, 22.10.2009, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.10.2009, p. 27), e.i.f. 4.7.2009, it shall apply from 1.1.2009. Subsequently replaced by “years 2008, 2009 and 2010” by Decision No 96/2010 (OJ L 277, 21.10.2010, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 59, 21.10.2010, p. 23), e.i.f. 3.7.2010. It shall apply from 1 January 2010. Subsequently replaced by “years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011” by Decision No 91/2011 (OJ L 262, 6.10.2011, p. 63 and EEA Supplement No 54, 6.10.2011, p. 80), e.i.f. 20.7.2011. It shall apply from 1 January 2011. Subsequently replaced by “years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012” by Decision No 142/2012 (OJ L 309, 8.11.2012, p. 26 and EEA Supplement No 63, 8.11.2012, p. 30), e.i.f. 14.7.2012. It shall apply from 1 January 2012. Subsequently replaced by “years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013” by Decision No 133/2013 (OJ L 345, 19.12.2013, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 72, 19.12.2013, p. 1), e.i.f. 9.7.2013. It shall apply from 1 January 2013.

{²⁰⁶} Indent added by Decision No 94/2008 (OJ L 280, 23.10.2008, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 64, 23.10.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 5.7.2008. It shall apply from 1 January 2008.

{²⁰⁷} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 250/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 10), e.i.f. 14.11.2014. It shall apply from 1 January 2014.

{²⁰⁸} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 196/2015 (OJ L 8, 12.1.2017, p. 33 and EEA Supplement No 3, 12.1.2017, p. 28), e.i.f. 11.7.2015. It shall apply from 1 January 2015.

{²⁰⁹} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 133/2016 (OJ L 308, 23.11.2017, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 76, 23.11.2017, p. 45), e.i.f. 4.6.2016. It shall apply from 1 January 2016 and subsequently words “the financial year 2016” replaced by the words “the financial years 2016 and 2017” by Decision No 116/2017 (OJ L 142, 7.6.2018, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 37, 7.6.2018, p. 48), e.i.f. 14.6.2017. It shall apply from 1 January 2017.

{²¹⁰} Words “and 2017” replaced by the words “, 2017 and 2018” by Decision No 121/2018 (OJ L 368, 5.11.2020, p. 22 and EEA Supplement No 71, 5.11.2020, p. 25), e.i.f. 1.6.2018, it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words “and 2018” replaced by the words “, 2018 and 2019” by Decision No 203/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 42), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019. Words “and 2019” replaced by the words “2019 and 2020” by Decision No 173/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 41), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020.

{²¹¹} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 160/2016 (OJ L 73, 15.3.2018, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 16, 15.3.2018, p. 39), e.i.f. 9.7.2016. It shall apply from 1 January 2016 and subsequently words “the financial year 2016” replaced by “the financial years 2016 and 2017” by Decision No 150/2017 (OJ L 174, 27.6.2019, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 52, 27.6.2019, p. 1), e.i.f. 29.8.2017. The words “and 2017” are

- **Budget line 02 03 01:** “Operation and development of the internal market of goods and services”.

13.^{212} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2016, participate in the Union actions related to the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020:

- **Budget line 33 02 03 01:** “Company law”.

14.^{213} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2017, participate in Union actions related to the following budget line, entered into the general budget of the European Union for the financial years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020:

- **Budget line 02 03 04:** “Internal market governance tools”.

15.^{214} The EFTA States shall, as from 25 July 2023, participate in the Union actions related to the following act and budget lines, entered in the general budget of the European Union:

- **32023 R 1525:** Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 July 2023 on supporting ammunition production (ASAP) (OJ L 185, 24.7.2023, p. 7).
- **Budget line 13 01 05:** “Support expenditure for the Defence Industrial Reinforcement Instrument”.
- **Budget line 13 07 01:** “Defence Industrial Reinforcement Instrument”.

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 25 July 2023 or, where the conditions of Article 7(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/1525 are fulfilled, after 20 March 2023, may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decisions concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 80/2024 of 15 March 2024 enters into force before the end of the action.

In accordance with paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 1 of Protocol 32 to the EEA Agreement, the financial contribution of the EFTA States shall apply to all the transactions that are made on the relevant budget lines for the financial year 2023 retroactively. The corresponding commitment appropriations for the financial year 2023 shall be available, mutatis mutandis, under the same terms as the appropriations for the financial year 2024, they shall in particular give rise to the provision, at the start of the financial year 2024, of the full amounts of the corresponding commitment appropriations for the financial year 2023.

Iceland and Liechtenstein shall be exempted from participation in, and the financial contribution to, the Instrument established by Regulation (EU) 2023/1525.

replaced by the words “, 2017 and 2018” by Decision No 171/2018 (OJ L 67, 25.2.2021, p. 69 and EEA Supplement No 13, 25.2.2021, p. 73), e.i.f. 7.7.2018; it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words “and 2018” replaced by the words “, 2018 and 2019” by Decision No 204/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 43), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019. Words “and 2019” replaced by the words “2019 and 2020” by Decision No 174/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 42), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020.

^{212} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 161/2016 (OJ L 73, 15.3.2018, p. 35 and EEA Supplement No 16, 15.3.2018, p. 40), e.i.f. 9.7.2016. It shall apply from 1 January 2016 and subsequently words “the financial year 2016” replaced by the words “the financial years 2016 and 2017” by Decision No 117/2017 (OJ L 142, 7.6.2018, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 37, 7.6.2018, p. 49), e.i.f. 14.6.2017. It shall apply from 1 January 2017. The words “and 2017” are replaced by the words “, 2017 and 2018” by Decision No 172/2018 (OJ L 67, 25.2.2021, p. 70 and EEA Supplement No 13, 25.2.2021, p. 74), e.i.f. 7.7.2018; it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words “and 2018” replaced by the words “, 2018 and 2019” by Decision No 205/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 44), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019. Words “and 2019” replaced by the words “2019 and 2020” by Decision No 175/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 43), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020.

^{213} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 150/2017 (OJ L 174, 27.6.2019, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 52, 27.6.2019, p. 1), e.i.f. 29.8.2017. It shall apply from 1 January 2017. The words “the financial year 2017” are replaced by the words “the financial years 2017 and 2018” by Decision 171/2018 (OJ L 67, 25.2.2021, p. 69 and EEA Supplement No 13, 25.2.2021, p. 73), e.i.f. 7.7.2018; it shall apply from 1.1.2018. Words “and 2018” replaced by the words “, 2018 and 2019” by Decision No 204/2019 (OJ L 298, 17.11.2022, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 77, 17.11.2022, p. 43), e.i.f. 11.7.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019. Words “and 2019” replaced by the words “2019 and 2020” by Decision No 174/2020 (OJ L 227, 14.9.2023, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 66, 14.9.2023, p. 42), e.i.f. 24.10.2020. It shall apply from 1.1.2020.

^{214} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 80/2024 (OJ L [to be published] and EEA Supplement No [to be published]), e.i.f. 16.3.2024. It shall apply from 23 July 2023.

16.{²¹⁵}The EFTA States shall, as from 27 October 2023, participate in the Union actions related to the following act and budget lines, entered into the general budget of the European Union:

- **32023 R 2418:** Regulation (EU) 2023/2418 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 October 2023 on establishing an instrument for the reinforcement of the European defence industry through common procurement (EDIRPA) (OJ L, 2023/2418, 26.10.2023).
- **Budget line 13 01 04:** “Support expenditure for the Short-term Defence instrument on common procurement”.
- **Budget line 13 06 01:** “Short-term Defence instrument on common procurement”.

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 27 October 2023 or, where the conditions of Article 6(3) of Regulation (EU) 2023/2418 are fulfilled, after 24 February 2022 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decisions concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 81/2024 of 15 March 2024 enters into force before the end of the action.

Iceland and Liechtenstein shall be exempted from participation in, and the financial contribution to, the Instrument established by Regulation (EU) 2023/2418.

Article 8 {²¹⁶}

Tourism

1. The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the Community programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4.
2. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.
3. The EFTA States shall, as from the start of the cooperation in the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4, participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of these programmes and actions.
4. The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community act:
 - **392 D 0421:** Council Decision 92/421/EEC of 13 July 1992 concerning a Community action plan to assist tourism (OJ No L 231, 13.8.1992, p. 26).

Article 9 {²¹⁷}

Audio-visual sector

1. The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the Community programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4.
2. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.

{²¹⁵} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 81/2024 (OJ L [to be published] and EEA Supplement No [to be published]), e.i.f. pending. It shall apply from 27 October 2023.

{²¹⁶} This article, introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former Article 8.

{²¹⁷} This article, introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995, replaces former Article 9.

3. The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4, participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of these programmes and actions.
4. The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts ^{218}:
 - **390 D 0685**: Council Decision 90/685/EEC of 21 December 1990 concerning the implementation of an action programme to promote the development of the European Audio-visual industry (MEDIA) (1991 to 1995) (OJ No L 380, 31.12.1990, p. 37),
 - ^{219} **395 D 0563**: Council Decision 95/563/EC of 10 July 1995 on the implementation of a programme encouraging the development and distribution of European audiovisual works (MEDIA II - Development and distribution) (1996 to 2000) (OJ No L 321, 30.12.1995, p. 25),
 - ^{220} **395 D 0564**: Council Decision 95/564/EC of 22 December 1995 on the implementation of a training programme for professionals in the European audiovisual programme industry (MEDIA II - Training) (1996 to 2000) (OJ No L 321, 30.12.1995, p. 33).
 - ^{221} **32001 D 0163**: Decision No 163/2001/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 January 2001 on the implementation of a training programme for professionals in the European audiovisual programme industry (MEDIA – Training) (2001-2005) (OJ L 26, 27.1.2001, p. 1), as amended by:
 - ^{222} **32004 D 0786**: Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),
 - ^{223} **32004 D 0845**: Decision No 845/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 (OJ L 157, 30.4.2004, p.1), as corrected by OJ L 195, 2.6.2004, p. 1,
 - ^{224} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).
 - ^{225} **32000 D 0821**: Council Decision 2000/821/EC of 20 December 2000 on the implementation of a programme to encourage the development, distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works (MEDIA Plus – Development, Distribution and Promotion) (2001-2005) (OJ L 336, 30.12.2000, p. 82), as amended by:
 - ^{226} **32004 D 0846**: Decision No 846/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 (OJ L 157, 30.4.2004, p. 4), as corrected by OJ L 195, 2.6.2004, p. 2,
 - ^{227} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1),

^{218} Word “act” replaced by “acts” by Decision No 70/96 (OJ L 71, 13.3.1997, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 11, 13.3.1997, p. 68), e.i.f. 1.8.1997.

^{219} Indent added by Decision No 70/96 (OJ L 71, 13.3.1997, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 11, 13.3.1997, p. 68), e.i.f. 1.8.1997.

^{220} Indent added by Decision No 70/96 (OJ L 71, 13.3.1997, p. 43 and EEA Supplement No 11, 13.3.1997, p. 68), e.i.f. 1.8.1997.

^{221} Indent added by Decision No 59/2001 (OJ L 165, 21.6.2001, p. 65 and EEA Supplement No 32, 21.6.2001, p. 6), e.i.f. 19.5.2001.

^{222} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{223} Sub-indent added by Decision No 75/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 68 and EEA Supplement No 46, 12.2.2004, p. 43), e.i.f. 20.12.2005.

^{224} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11..2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{225} Indent added by Decision No 59/2001 (OJ L 165, 21.6.2001, p. 65 and EEA Supplement No 32, 21.6.2001, p. 6), e.i.f. 19.5.2001.

^{226} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 75/2005 (OJ L 239, 15.9.2005, p. 68 and EEA Supplement No 46, 12.2.2004, p. 43), e.i.f. 20.12.2005.

^{227} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11..2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

-^{228} **32006 D 1718**: Decision No 1718/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2006 concerning the implementation of a programme of support for the European audiovisual sector (MEDIA 2007) (OJ L 327, 24.11.2006, p. 12), as corrected by OJ L 31, 6.2.2007, p. 10,

-^{229} **32009 D 1041**: Decision No 1041/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 establishing an audiovisual cooperation programme with professionals from third countries (MEDIA Mundus) (OJ L 288, 4.11.2009, p. 10).

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

-^{230} **32013 R 1295**: Regulation (EU) No 1295/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Creative Europe Programme (2014 to 2020) and repealing Decisions No 1718/2006/EC, No 1855/2006/EC and No 1041/2009/EC (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 221), as amended by:

-^{231} **32018 R 0596**: Regulation (EU) 2018/596 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 April 2018 (OJ L 103, 23.4.2018, p. 1).

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

-^{232} **32021 R 0818**: Regulation (EU) 2021/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing the Creative Europe Programme (2021 to 2027) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1295/2013 (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 34).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 268/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Article 10

Civil protection

1. The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from (489 Y 0223) Resolution of the Council and the Representatives of the Member States, meeting within the Council, of 13 February 1989 on the new developments in Community cooperation on civil protection (OJ No C 44, 23.2.1989, p. 3).
2. The EFTA States shall ensure that the number 112 is introduced within their territories as the single European emergency call number in accordance with the provisions of (391 D 0396) Council Decision of 29 July 1991 on the introduction of a single European emergency call number (OJ No L 217, 6.8.1991, p. 31).
- 3.^{233} The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation with a view to improving mutual aid within the European Economic Area in the event of natural or technological disaster in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community act:
 - **491 Y 0727(01)**: Resolution 91/C 198/01 of the Council and the representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting with the Council of 8 July 1991, on improving mutual aid between Member States in the event of natural or technological disaster (OJ No C 198, 27.7.1991, p. 1).

^{228} Indent added by Decision No 68/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 6), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, from 1.1.2007.

^{229} Indent added by Decision No 92/2011 (OJ L 262, 6.10.2011, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 54, 6.10.2011, p. 81), e.i.f. 20.7.2011. It shall apply from 1 January 2011.

^{230} Indent added by Decision No 111/2014 (OJ L 310, 30.10.2014, p. 83 and EEA Supplement No 63, 30.10.2014, p. 71), e.i.f. 17.5.2014. It shall apply from 1 January 2014.

^{231} Sub-indent added by Decision No 29/2019 (OJ L 63, 16.7.2020, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 48, 16.7.2020, p. 49), e.i.f. 9.2.2019. It shall apply from 1 January 2018.

^{232} Indent added by Decision No 268/2021 (OJ L, 2024/514, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 77), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1 January 2021.

^{233} Paragraph added by Decision No 18/98 (OJ L 272, 8.10.1998, p. 31 and EEA Supplement No 42, 8.10.1998, p. 249), e.i.f. 7.3.1998.

- 4.{²³⁴} The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community act:
- **494 Y 1110(01)**: Resolution 94/C 313/01 of the Council and the representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting with the Council of 31 October 1994, on strengthening Community cooperation on civil protection (OJ No C 313, 10.11.1994, p. 1).
- 5.{²³⁵} The EFTA States shall participate in the Community action programmes and mechanisms referred to in paragraph 8.
- 6.{²³⁶} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the Community action programmes and mechanisms referred to in paragraph 8 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
- 7.{²³⁷} The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committees which assists the EC Commission in the management, development and implementation of the Community action programmes and mechanisms referred to in paragraph 8.
- 8.{²³⁸} The following Community acts, as well as acts deriving therefrom, are the object of this Article:
- (a) Community acts which shall take effect on or before 1 January 2000:
 - **398 D 0022**: Council Decision 98/22/EC of 19 December 1997 establishing a Community action programme in the field of civil protection (OJ L 8, 14.1.1998, p. 20).
 - {²³⁹} **399 D 0847**: Council Decision 1999/847/EC of 9 December 1999 establishing a Community action programme in the field of civil protection (OJ L 327, 21.12.1999, p. 53), as amended by:
 - {²⁴⁰} **32005 D 0012**: Council Decision 2005/12/EC of 20 December 2004 amending Decision 1999/847/EC as regards the extension of the Community action programme in the field of civil protection (OJ L 6, 8.1.2005, p. 7).
 - (b){²⁴¹} Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2008:
 - **32007 D 0779**: Council Decision 2007/779/EC of 8 November 2007 establishing a Community Civil Protection Mechanism (recast) (OJ L 314, 1.12.2007, p. 9).
 - (c){²⁴²} Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2007:
 - **32007 D 0162**: Council Decision 2007/162/EC, Euratom of 5 March 2007 establishing a Civil Protection Financial Instrument (OJ L 71, 10.3.2007, p. 9).
 - (d){²⁴³} Community acts which shall take effect from 1 January 2014:

{²³⁴} Paragraph added by Decision No 18/98 (OJ L 272, 8.10.1998, p. 31 and EEA Supplement No 42, 8.10.1998, p. 249), e.i.f. 7.3.1998.

{²³⁵} Paragraphs 5 to 8 including the indent, added by Decision No 71/1999 (OJ L 284, 9.11.2000, p. 59 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.11.2000, p.55), e.i.f. 3.6.1999. Text partly replaced by Decision No 40/2000 (OJ L 141, 15.6.2000, p. 68 and EEA Supplement No 27, 15.6.2000, p. 26), e.i.f. 1.7.2000. Text replaced by Decision No 135/2002 (OJ L 336, 12.12.2002, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 61, 12.12.2002, p. 30), e.i.f. 1.4.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{²³⁶} Text partly changed by Decision No 135/2002 (OJ L 336, 12.12.2002, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 61, 12.12.2002, p. 30), e.i.f. 1.4.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{²³⁷} Text partly changed by Decision No 135/2002 (OJ L 336, 12.12.2002, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 61, 12.12.2002, p. 30), e.i.f. 1.4.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{²³⁸} Text partly changed by Decision No 135/2002 (OJ L 336, 12.12.2002, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 61, 12.12.2002, p. 30), e.i.f. 1.4.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{²³⁹} Indent added by Decision No 40/2000 (OJ L 141, 15.6.2000, p. 68 and EEA Supplement No 27, 15.6.2000, p. 26), e.i.f. 1.7.2000.

{²⁴⁰} Indent and words: “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 89/2005 (OJ L 268, 13.10.2005, p. 25 and EEA Supplement No 52, 13.10.2005, p. 15), e.i.f. 11.6.2005.

{²⁴¹} Subparagraph added by Decision No 135/2002 (OJ L 336, 12.12.2002, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 61, 12.12.2002, p. 30), e.i.f. 1.4.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 39/2008 (OJ L 182, 10.7.2008, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 42, 10.7.2008, p. 26), e.i.f. 15.3.2008, it shall apply from 1.1.2008.

{²⁴²} Subparagraph added by Decision No 96/2007 (OJ L 047, 21.2.2008, p. 1 and EEA Supplement No 9, 21.2.2008, p. 1), e.i.f. 28.7.2007; it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{²⁴³} Subparagraph added by Decision No 150/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 60 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 58), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

- **32013 D 1313**: Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924), as amended by:

-^{244} **32018 R 1475**: Regulation (EU) 2018/1475 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 October 2018 (OJ L 250, 4.10.2018, p. 1),

-^{245} **32019 D 0420**: Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2019 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 77I, 20.3.2019, p. 1),

-^{246} **32021 R 0836**: Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 185, 26.5.2021, p. 1).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 2692021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

9. ^{247} (a) The Contracting Parties shall cooperate with each other in the fields covered by the following act:

- **32008 L 0114**: Council Directive 2008/114/EC of 8 December 2008 on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection (OJ L 345, 23.12.2008, p. 75).

(b) With a view to achieving the aims set out in Directive 2008/114/EC, the Contracting Parties shall make use of the appropriate forms of cooperation mentioned in Article 80 of the Agreement.

(c) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement, with the exception of Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter 3, shall apply to this paragraph.

Article 11 ^{248}

Trade Facilitation

1. The EFTA States shall, from 1 January 1994, participate in the Community programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4 in accordance with Article 21 (3) of the Agreement.
2. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.
3. The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 4, participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management or development of these programmes and actions.
4. The following Community acts, as well as acts deriving therefrom, are the object of this Article:

^{244} Indent and words", as amended by:" added by Decision No 136/2019 (OJ L 279, 27.10.2022, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 69, 27.10.2022, p. 45), e.i.f. 9.5.2019, it shall apply from 1.1.2019.

^{245} Sub-indent added by Decision No 246/2019 (OJ L 4, 5.1.2023, p. 83 and EEA Supplement No 3, 5.1.2023, p. 77), e.i.f. 28.9.2019, it shall apply from 21.3.2019.

^{246} Sub-indent added by Decision No 269/2021 (OJ L, 2024/488, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 79), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1 January 2021.

^{247} Paragraph added by Decision No 101/2012 (OJ L 248, 13.9.2012, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 50, 13.9.2012, p. 45), e.i.f. 5.3.2013.

^{248} Article added by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995.

- **387 D 0499:** Council Decision 87/499/EEC of 5 October 1987 introducing a communications network Community programme on trade electronic data interchange systems (TEDIS) (OJ No L 285, 8.10.1987, p. 35),
- **389 D 0241:** Council Decision 89/241/EEC of 5 April 1989 amending Decision 87/499/EEC introducing a communications network Community programme on trade electronic data interchange systems (TEDIS) (OJ No L 97, 11.4.1989, p. 46),
- **391 D 0385:** Council Decision 91/385/EEC of 22 July 1991 establishing the second phase of the TEDIS programme (Trade electronic data interchange systems) (OJ No L 208, 30.7.1991, p. 66).

Article 12 {²⁴⁹}

Transport and mobility

1. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 1994, participate in the Community actions related to the budget line B6-8351 "Transport and mobility", entered in the EC budget for the year 1994.
- 2.{²⁵⁰} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2004, participate in the following programme:
 - **32003 R 1382:** Regulation (EC) No 1382/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 July 2003 on the granting of Community financial assistance to improve the environmental performance of the freight transport system (Marco Polo Programme) (OJ L 196, 2.8.2003, p. 1), as amended by:
 - **32004 R 0788:** Regulation (EC) No 788/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 17).
- 3.{²⁵¹} The EFTA States shall, with effect from 1 January 2007, participate in the following programme:
 - **32006 R 1692:** Regulation (EC) No 1692/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing the second 'Marco Polo' programme for the granting of Community financial assistance to improve the environmental performance of the freight transport system (Marco Polo II) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1382/2003 (OJ L 328, 24.11.2006, p. 1), as corrected by OJ L 65, 3.3.2007, p. 12, as amended by:
 - {²⁵²} **32009 R 0923:** Regulation (EC) No 923/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 (OJ L 266, 9.10.2009, p. 1).
- 4.{²⁵³} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the actions and programmes referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement.
- 5.{²⁵⁴} The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management, development and implementation of the Community programmes referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3.

{²⁴⁹} Article introduced by Decision No 8/94 (OJ L 198, 30.7.1994, p. 142 and EEA Supplement No 25, 30.7.1994, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.1.1995.

{²⁵⁰} Paragraph added by Decision No 70/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.11.2007, p. 8), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{²⁵¹} Paragraph added by Decision No 70/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.11.2007, p. 8), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{²⁵²} Indent and words, "as amended by" added by Decision No 58/2010 (OJ L 181, 15.7.2010, p. 27 and EEA Supplement No 37, 15.7.2010, p. 36), e.i.f. 1.5.2010. It shall apply from 1 January 2010.

{²⁵³} Text of paragraph 2 replaced and renumbered to paragraph 4 by Decision No 70/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.11.2007, p. 8), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{²⁵⁴} Paragraph added by Decision No 70/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 54 and EEA Supplement No 56, 22.11.2007, p. 8), e.i.f. 30.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

6. {²⁵⁵} The EFTA States shall participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:

- **32013 R 1315**: Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network and repealing Decision No 661/2010/EU (OJ L 348, 20.12.2013, p. 1), as amended by:

-{²⁵⁶} **32016 R 0758**: Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/758 of 4 February 2016 (OJ L 126, 14.5.2016, p. 3).

The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in the committee established by Article 52 of the Regulation.

Article 13 {²⁵⁷}

Culture

1. Cooperation in the field of culture shall be strengthened in the framework of the activities and programmes of the Community in that area. The EFTA States shall participate in the various activities of the Community in the field of culture involving exchange of information, meetings of experts, seminars, conferences and diverse cultural events.

2.{²⁵⁸} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 6 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.

3.{²⁵⁹} The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committees and other bodies which assist the Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to in paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 6.

4.{²⁶⁰} The following Community acts, as well as acts derived there from, are the object of this Article:

- **396 D 0719**: Decision No 719/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 March 1996 establishing a programme to support artistic and cultural activities having a European dimension (Kaleidoscope) (OJ L 99, 20.4.1996, p. 20), as amended by:

-{²⁶¹} **399 D 0477** Decision No 477/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 February 1999 (OJ L 57, 5.3.1999, p. 2).

- **397 D 2085**: Decision No 2085/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 October 1997 establishing a programme of support, including translation, in the field of books and reading (Ariane) (OJ L 291, 24.10.1997, p. 26), as amended by:

-{²⁶²} **399 D 0476**: Decision No 476/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 February 1999 (OJ L 57, 5.3.1999, p. 1).

- **397 D 2228**: Decision No 2228/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 1997 establishing a Community action programme in the field of cultural heritage (the Raphael programme) (OJ L 305, 8.11.1997, p. 31),

{²⁵⁵} Paragraph added by Decision No 280/2015 (OJ L 161, 22.6.2017, p. 68 and EEA Supplement No 78, 22.6.2017, p.70), e.i.f. 31.10.2015.

{²⁵⁶} Indent and words “, as amended by” above added by Decision No 197/2016 (OJ L 80, 22.3.2018, p. 42 and EEA Supplement No 19, 22.3.2018, p. 56), e.i.f. 24.9.2016.

{²⁵⁷} Article introduced by Decision No 36/95 (OJ L 205, 31.8.1995, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 32, 31.8.1995, p. 17), e.i.f. 1.1.1996.

{²⁵⁸} Text of paragraph 2 replaced by Decision No 117/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 5 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 3), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

{²⁵⁹} Text of paragraph 3 replaced by Decision No 117/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 5 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 3), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

{²⁶⁰} Paragraph added by Decision No 89/1999 (OJ L 296, 23.11.2000, p. 51 and EEA Supplement No 54, 23.11.2000, p.274 (Icelandic) p. 238 (Norwegian)), e.i.f. 26.6.1999.

{²⁶¹} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/1999 (OJ L 296, 23.11.2000, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 54, 23.11.2000, p. 302 (Icelandic) p. 266 (Norwegian)), e.i.f. 26.6.1999.

{²⁶²} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/1999 (OJ L 296, 23.11.2000, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 54, 23.11.2000, p. 302 (Icelandic) p. 266 (Norwegian)), e.i.f. 26.6.1999.

-^{263} **32000 D 0508**: Decision No 508/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 February 2000 establishing the Culture 2000 programme (OJ L 63, 10.3.2000, p. 1), as amended by:

-^{264} **32004 D 0786**: Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),

-^{265} **32004 D 0626**: Decision No 626/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 (OJ L 99, 3.4.2004, p. 3),

-^{266} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).

-^{267} **32006 D 1855**: Decision No 1855/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 establishing the Culture Programme (2007-2013) (OJ L 372, 27.12.2006, p. 1).

5.^{268} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 1999, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 1999:

- **B3-2005**: "Experimental measures in relation to the cultural framework programme".

6.^{269} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2004, participate in the Community actions related to the following budget line, entered in the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2004:

- **Budget line 15.04.02.03**: "Preparatory actions for cooperation on cultural matters".

7.^{270} The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:

- **32006 H 0585**: Recommendation 2006/585/EC of 24 August 2006 on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation (OJ L 236, 31.8.2006, p. 28).

Article 14 ^{271}

Energy programmes and environment-related energy activities

1. As from 1 January 1996, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5 (a) and in actions pursuant thereto.

2. As from 1 January 1996, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5(b) and in actions pursuant thereto.

^{263} Indent added by Decision No 46/2000 (OJ L 174, 13.7.2000, p. 58 and EEA Supplement No 32, 13.7.2000, p.7), e.i.f. 20.5.2000.

^{264} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{265} Sub-indent added by Decision No 181/2004 (OJ L 133, 26.5.2005, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 26, 26.5.2005, p. 31), e.i.f. 17.12.2004.

^{266} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{267} Indent added by Decision No 69/2007 (OJ L 304, 22.11.2007, p. 53 and EEA Supplement No 56, p. 7), e.i.f. 16.6.2007, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

^{268} Paragraph added by Decision No 100/1999 (OJ L 296, 23.11.2000, p. 79 and EEA Supplement No 55, 23.11.2000, p. 300), e.i.f. 31.7.1999.

^{269} Paragraph added by Decision No 117/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 5 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 3), e.i.f. 7.8.2004.

^{270} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 20/2008 (OJ L 154, 12.6.2008, p. 40 and EEA Supplement No 33, 12.6.2008, p. 27), e.i.f. 2.2.2008.

^{271} This article, introduced by Decision No 84/96 (OJ L 71, 13.3.1997, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 11, 13.3.1997, p. 69), e.i.f. 1.8.1997, replaces former Article 14.

- 2a.^{272} As from 1 January 1998, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5 (c) and in actions pursuant thereto.
- 2b.^{273} As from 1 January 2000, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5(d) and in actions pursuant thereto.
- 2c.^{274} As from 1 January 2000, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5(e) and in actions pursuant thereto.
- 2d.^{275} As from 1 January 2000, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5(f) and in actions pursuant thereto.
- 2e.^{276} As from 1 January 2003, the EFTA States shall participate in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5(g) and in actions pursuant thereto, with the exception of the programme's specific field "COOPENER" and actions pursuant thereto.
- ^{277} As from 1 January 2005 the EFTA States shall participate in the specific field "COOPENER" and actions pursuant thereto in the Community programme referred to in paragraph 5(g).
- 3.^{278} The EFTA/EEA States shall contribute financially to the programmes referred to in paragraph 5(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g)^{279} to actions pursuant thereto, in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
- 4.^{280} As from the start of the cooperation in the programmes referred to in paragraph 5(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g)^{281} the actions pursuant thereto, the EFTA/EEA States shall participate fully in the EC committees which assist the EC Commission in the management of such programmes and actions.
5. The Contracting Parties shall seek to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities resulting from the following Community acts:
- (a) **393 D 0500:** Council Decision 93/500/EEC of 13 September 1993 concerning the promotion of renewable energy sources in the Community (Altener programme) (OJ No L 235, 18.9.1993, p. 41).
 - (b) **396 D 0737:** Council Decision 96/737/EC of 16 December 1996 concerning a multi-annual programme for the promotion of energy efficiency in the Community (SAVE II programme) (OJ No L 335, 24.12.1996, p. 50).
 - (c)^{282} **398 D 0352:** Council Decision 98/352/EC of 18 May 1998 concerning a multiannual programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources in the Community (Altener II) (OJ L 159, 3.6.1998, p. 53).

^{272} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 23/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 255), e.i.f. 27.2.1999.

^{273} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 17/2000 (OJ L 103, 12.4.2001, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 20, 12.4.2001, p.175), e.i.f. 1.8.2000.

^{274} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 101/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.21), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

^{275} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 102/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 38 and the EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.22), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

^{276} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 164/2003 (OJ L 41, 12.2.2004, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 7, 12.2.2004, p. 43), e.i.f. 17.12.2003.

^{277} Second paragraph inserted by Decision No 137/2004 (OJ L 64, 10.3.2005, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 12, 10.3.2005, p. 56), e.i.f. 1.2.2005.

^{278} Paragraph amended by Decision No 23/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 255), e.i.f. 27.2.1999, Decision No 17/2000 (OJ L 103, 12.4.2001, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 20, 12.4.2001, p. 175), e.i.f. 1.8.2000, Decision No 101/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.21), e.i.f. 15.12.2000 and Decision No 102/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.22), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

^{279} The wording replaced by Decision No 164/2003 (OJ L 41, 12.2.2004, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 7, 12.2.2004, p. 45), e.i.f. 17.12.2003.

^{280} Paragraph amended by Decision No 23/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 255), e.i.f. 27.2.1999, Decision No 17/2000 (OJ L 103, 12.4.2001, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 20, 12.4.2001, p. 175), e.i.f. 1.8.2000, Decision No 101/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.21), e.i.f. 15.12.2000 and Decision No 102/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 38 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.22), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

^{281} The wording replaced by Decision No 164/2003 (OJ L 41, 12.2.2004, p. 67 and EEA Supplement No 7, 12.2.2004, p. 45), e.i.f. 17.12.2004.

^{282} Letter (c) added by Decision No 23/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 255), e.i.f. 27.2.1999.

- (d){²⁸³} **399 D 0022**: Council Decision 1999/22/EC of 14 December 1998 adopting a multiannual programme of studies, analyses, forecasts and other related work in the energy sector (1998-2002) (ETAP programme) (OJ L 7, 13.1.1999, p. 20).
- (e){²⁸⁴} **32000 D 0646**: Decision No 646/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 February 2000 adopting a multiannual programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources in the Community (Altener) (1998 to 2002) (OJ L 79, 30.3.2000, p. 1).
- (f){²⁸⁵} **32000 D 0647**: Decision No 647/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 February 2000 adopting a multiannual programme for the promotion of energy efficiency (SAVE) (1998 to 2002) (OJ L 79, 30.3.2000, p. 6).
- (g){²⁸⁶} **32003 D 1230**: Decision No 1230/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2003 adopting a multiannual programme for action in the field of energy: “Intelligent Energy – Europe” (2003/2006) (OJ L 176, 15.7.2003, p. 29), as amended by:
- {²⁸⁷} **32004 D 0787**: Decision No 787/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 12).

Article 15 {²⁸⁸}

Employment

1. Cooperation in the field of employment shall be strengthened by participation of the EFTA States in the European Employment Services network (Eures). The EFTA States shall participate as from 1 January 1996 in all the various activities of the Community under Eures including exchange of information, meetings of experts, seminars, conferences and other related events.
2. {²⁸⁹} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in paragraph 1 and which are carried out before 1 January 2014 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
3. The EFTA States shall participate fully in the working party and other bodies which assist the Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities related to the EURES network.
4. {²⁹⁰} Paragraphs 1 to 3 shall apply to Liechtenstein as from 1 January 2007.
5. {²⁹¹} The EFTA States shall participate in the Community activities referred to in the first indent of paragraph 8 as from 1 January 1999, in the activities referred to in the second indent as from 1 January 2003, in the activities referred to in the third indent as from 1 January 2014 and in the activities referred to in the fourth indent as from 1 January 2021.
6. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to in paragraph 8 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.

{²⁸³} Letter (d) added by Decision No 17/2000 (OJ L 103, 12.4.2001, p. 34 and EEA Supplement No 20, 12.4.2001, p. 175), e.i.f. 1.8.2000

{²⁸⁴} Letter (e) added by Decision No 101/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p. 21), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

{²⁸⁵} Letter (f) added by Decision No 102/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 38 and EEEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p. 22), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

{²⁸⁶} Letter (g) added by Decision No 164/2003 (OJ L 41, 12.2.2004, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 7, 12.2.2004, p. 43), e.i.f. 17.12.2003.

{²⁸⁷} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{²⁸⁸} Article added by Decision No 56/96 (OJ L 58, 27.2.1997, p. 50 and EEA Supplement No 9, 27.2.1997, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.5.1997.

{²⁸⁹} Words “and which are carried out before 1 January 2014” of paragraph 2 added by Decision No 151/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 61 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 59), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014.

{²⁹⁰} Text of paragraph 5 replaced by Decision No 139/2006 (OJ L 366, 21.12.2006, p. 85 and EEA Supplement No 64, 21.12.2006, p. 12), e.i.f. 28.10.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2007.

{²⁹¹} Text of paragraph 5 replaced by Decision No 18/2003 (OJ L 94, 10.4.2003, p. 78 and EEA Supplement No 19, 10.4.2003, p. 22), e.i.f. 1.2.2003, and subsequently replaced by Decision No 151/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 61 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 59), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014 and subsequently replaced by Decision No 270/2021 (OJ L, 2024/480, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 81), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1 January 2021.

7. The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committee which assists the EC Commission in the management, development and implementation of the activities referred to in paragraph 8.
8. The Contracting Parties shall seek in particular to strengthen cooperation in the framework of Community activities which may result from the following acts:

- **398 D 0171:** Council Decision 98/171/EC of 23 February 1998 on Community activities concerning analysis, research and cooperation in the field of employment and the labour market (OJ L 63, 4.3.1998, p. 26),

-^{292} **32002 D 1145:** Decision No 1145/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 June 2002 on Community incentive measures in the field of employment (OJ L 170, 29.6.2002, p. 1) as amended by:

-^{293} **32004 D 0786:** Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),

-^{294} **32013 R 1296:** Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (“EaSI”) and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 238), as amended by:

-^{295} **32016 R 0589:** Regulation (EU) 2016/589 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 April 2016 (OJ L 107, 22.4.2016, p. 1).

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme. Norway shall participate in, and financially contribute to, only the Progress and EURES axes of the programme.

-^{296} **32021 R 1057:** Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013 (OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, p. 21), as corrected by OJ L 421, 26.11.2021, p. 75.

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 270/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

The EFTA States shall only participate in the Employment and Social Innovation strand of the programme.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

9. ^{297} The EFTA States shall participate in the cooperation provided in the following EU acts:

- **32014 D 0573:** Decision No 573/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on enhanced cooperation between Public Employment Services (PES) (OJ L 159, 28.5.2014, p. 32), as amended by:

^{292} Indent added by Decision No 18/2003 (OJ L 94, 10.4.2003, p. 78 and EEA Supplement No 19, 10.4.2003, p. 22), e.i.f. 1.2.2003.

^{293} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{294} Indent added by Decision No 151/2014 (OJ L 342, 27.11.2014, p. 61 and EEA Supplement No 71, 27.11.2014, p. 59), e.i.f. 28.6.2014; it shall apply from 1.1.2014. Words “EURES axis” replaced by the words “Progress and EURES axes” by Decision No 174/2015 (OJ L 341, 15.12.2016, p. 75 and EEA Supplement No 69, 15.12.2016, p. 76), e.i.f. 12.6.2015; it shall apply from 1.1.2015.

^{295} Indent and words “, as amended by:” added by Decision No 302/2019 (OJ L 68, 5.3.2020, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 14, 5.3.2020, p. 52), e.i.f. 1.3.2021.

^{296} Indent added by Decision No 270/2021 (OJ L, 2024/480, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 81), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1.1.2021. Corrigendum to the EU act subsequently taken note of by the EEA Joint Committee on 18.3.2022.

^{297} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 252/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 14), e.i.f. 14.11.2014, subsequently text of article 15(9) replaced by Decision No 254/2016 (OJ L 215, 23.8.2018, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 56, 23.8.2018, p. 68), e.i.f. 3.12.2016. Indent of Article 15(9) (Decision (EU) 2016/344) will subsequently be deleted by Decision No 319/2023 (OJ L [to be published] and EEA Supplement [to be published]), e.i.f. pending.

- {²⁹⁸} **32020 D 1782**: Decision (EU) 2020/1782 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2020 (OJ L 400, 30.11.2020, p. 7).

The EFTA States shall participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Board of the Network.

- **32016 D 0344**: Decision (EU) 2016/344 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on establishing a European Platform to enhance cooperation in tackling undeclared work (OJ L 65, 11.3.2016, p. 12).

Article 16 {²⁹⁹}

Public Health

1. Cooperation in the field of public health shall be strengthened by participation of the EFTA States in Community activities which may result from the following Community acts:

- [] {³⁰⁰}

- {³⁰¹} **398 D 2119**: Decision No 2119/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 1998 setting up a network for the epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the Community (OJ L 268, 3.10.1998, p. 1), as amended by:

- {³⁰²} **32007 D 0875**: Commission Decision 2007/875/EC of 18 December 2007 (OJ L 344, 28.12.2007, p. 48),

{³⁰³} In the context of the cooperation provided for under this indent, the EFTA States shall take note of the following act:

- **32012 H 0073**: Commission Recommendation 2012/73/EU of 6 February 2012 on data protection guidelines for the Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) (OJ L 36, 9.2.2012, p. 31).

- {³⁰⁴} **32002 D 1786**: Decision No 1786/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 adopting a programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008) (OJ L 271, 9.10.2002, p. 1), as amended by:

- {³⁰⁵} **32004 D 0786**: Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),

- {³⁰⁶} **32007 D 1150**: Decision No 1150/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 September 2007 establishing for the period 2007-2013 the Specific Programme 'Drug prevention and information' as part of the General Programme 'Fundamental Rights and Justice' (OJ L 257, 3.10.2007, p. 23),

{²⁹⁸} Indent and words “, as amended by: “added by Decision No 224/2021 (OJ L, 2024/271, 8.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 13, 8.2.2024, p. 65), e.i.f. 10.7.2021.

{²⁹⁹} Article added by Decision No 54/96 (OJ L 21, 23.1.1997, p. 9, and EEA Supplement No 4, 21.1.1997, p. 54), e.i.f. 1.5.1997.

{³⁰⁰} Indents (EP and C. Decision 645/96/EC, as amended, EP and C. Decision 646/96/EC, as amended, EP and C. Decision 647/96/EC, as amended, EP and C. Decision 102/97/EC, as amended, EP and C. Decision 1400/97/EC, as amended, EP and C. Decision 1295/1999/EC, EP and C. Decision 372/1999/EC, EP and C. Decision 1296/1999/EC, as amended) deleted by Decision No 19/2003 (OJ L 94, 10.4.2003, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 19, 10.4.2003, p. 23), e.i.f. 1.2.2003.

{³⁰¹} Indent added by Decision No 84/2000 (OJ L 315, 14.12.2000, p. 30 and EEA Supplement No 59, 14.12.2000, p. 24), e.i.f. 3.10.2000.

{³⁰²} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 78/2008 (OJ L 257, 25.9.2008, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 58, 25.9.2008, p. 29), e.i.f. 7.6.2008.

{³⁰³} Indent and text added by Decision No 301/2014 (OJ L 311, 26.11.2015, p. 56 and EEA Supplement No 71, 26.11.2015, p. 55), e.i.f. 13.12.2014.

{³⁰⁴} Indent added by Decision No 19/2003 (OJ L 94, 10.4.2003, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 19, 10.4.2003, p. 23), e.i.f. 1.2.2003.

{³⁰⁵} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

{³⁰⁶} Indent added by Decision No 76/2008 (OJ L 257, 25.9.2008, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 58, 25.9.2008, p. 27), e.i.f. 7.6.2008. It shall apply from 1.1.2008.

-^{307} **32007 D 1350**: Decision No 1350/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 establishing a second programme of Community action in the field of health (2008-13) (OJ L 301, 20.11.2007, p. 3).

-^{308} **32014 R 0282**: Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on the establishment of a third Programme for the Union's action in the field of health (2014-2020) and repealing Decision No 1350/2007/EC (OJ L 86, 21.3.2014, p. 1).

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 253/2014 of 13 November 2014 enters into force before the end of the action.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

-^{309} **32013 D 1082**: Decision No 1082/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 on serious cross-border threats to health and repealing Decision No 2119/98/EC (OJ L 293, 5.11.2013, p. 1).

Liechtenstein shall bear all its costs stemming from its involvement in the activities under Decision 1082/2013. If and when Liechtenstein becomes a participant in the third Programme for the Union's action in the field of health (2014-2020) as established by Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014, the usual provisions on reimbursement of costs will apply.

-^{310} **32021 R 0522**: Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing a Programme for the Union's action in the field of health ('EU4Health Programme') for the period 2021-2027, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 (OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 1).

The costs incurred for activities the implementation of which starts after 1 January 2021 may be considered eligible as from the starting date of the action fixed in the grant agreement or the grant decision concerned, under the conditions set out therein, provided that Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 271/2021 of 24 September 2021 enters into force before the end of the action.

Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

2.^{311} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 1 in accordance with Article 82(1) (a) of the Agreement.

3.^{312} The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committees which assist the Commission in the management, development and implementation of the programmes and actions referred to in paragraph 1.

4.^{313} (a) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the European Centre for disease prevention and control, hereinafter referred to as the "Centre", as set up by the following Community act:

- **32004 R 0851**: Regulation (EC) No 851/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 establishing a European Centre for disease prevention and control (OJ L 142, 30.4.2004, p. 1).

^{307} Indent added by Decision No 77/2008 (OJ L 257, 25.9.2008, p. 46 and EEA Supplement No 58, 25.9.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 7.6.2008. It shall apply from 1.1.2008.

^{308} Indent added by Decision No 253/2014 (OJ L 263, 8.10.2015, p. 47 and EEA Supplement No 61, 8.10.2015, p. 15), e.i.f. 14.11.2014. It shall apply from 1.1.2014.

^{309} Indent added by Decision No 73/2015 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2016, p. 87 and EEA Supplement No 29, 19.5.2016, p. 86), e.i.f. 21.3.2015.

^{310} Indent and adaptation text added by Decision No 271/2021 (OJ L, 2024/476, 22.2.2024 and EEA Supplement No 17, 22.2.2024, p. 83), e.i.f. 25.9.2021. It shall apply from 1 January 2021.

^{311} Paragraph 2 deleted with effect from 1.2.2003 by Decision No 19/2003 (OJ L 94, 10.4.2003, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 19, 10.4.2003, p. 23), e.i.f. 1.2.2003, and paragraph renumbered from 3 to 2 by the same Decision.

^{312} Paragraph renumbered from 4 to 3 by Decision No 19/2003 (OJ L 94, 10.4.2003, p. 80 and EEA Supplement No 19, 10.4.2003, p. 23), e.i.f. 1.2.2003.

^{313} Paragraph inserted by Decision No 23/2005 (OJ L 161, 23.6.2005, p.52 and EEA Supplement No 32, 23.6.2005, p. 30), e.i.f. 19.5.2005, it shall apply from 1.1.2005.

- (b) The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the activities referred to under (a) in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of and Protocol 32 to the Agreement.
- (c) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the Management Board and shall have the same rights and obligations within it as EU Member States, except for the right to vote.
- (d) The EFTA States shall participate fully in the Advisory Forum and shall have the same rights and obligations within it as EU Member States.
- (e) EFTA States shall apply to the Agency and to its staff the Protocol of Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities and applicable rules adopted pursuant to the Protocol.
- (f) By way of derogation from Article 12 (2) (a) of the Conditions of employment of other servants of the European Communities, nationals of the EFTA States enjoying their full rights as citizens may be engaged under contract by the Director of the Agency.
- (g) By virtue of Article 79(3) of the Agreement Part VII (Institutional Provisions) of the Agreement shall apply to this paragraph.
- (h) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents shall, for the application of this Regulation, apply to any documents of the Centre regarding the EFTA States as well.

Article 17 ^{314}

Telematic interchange of data ^{315}

1. ^{316} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 1997 participate in the projects and activities of the Community programmes referred to in paragraph 6(a), in accordance with the Work programme in Appendix 3 to this Protocol, and as from 1 January 2006 shall participate in the projects and activities of the Community programme referred to in paragraph 6(b), to the extent that these projects and activities support other cooperation of the Contracting Parties.

^{317} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2010, participate in the projects and activities of the programme of the Union referred to in paragraph 6(c), to the extent that these projects and activities support other cooperation of the Contracting Parties.

^{318} The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2016, participate in the projects and activities of the programme of the Union referred to in paragraph 6(d).
2. ^{319} The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programmes referred to in paragraph 6 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.

^{314} Article added by Decision No 98/97 (OJ L 193, 9.7.1998, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 27, 9.7.1998, p. 107), e.i.f. 13.12.1997.

^{315} Title changed by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{316} Text of Paragraph 1 replaced by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006 and subsequently the words paragraph 5(a) and paragraph 5(b) replaced by the words paragraph 6(a) and paragraph 6(b) by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40), e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

^{317} Subparagraph inserted by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40), e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

^{318} Subparagraph inserted by Decision No 162/2016 (OJ L 73, 15.3.2018, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 16, 15.3.2018, p. 41), e.i.f. 9.7.2016. It shall apply from 1 January 2016.

^{319} Text of Paragraph 2 changed by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006 and subsequently the words “paragraph 5” replaced by “paragraph 6” by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40) e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

- 3.{³²⁰} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the programme referred to in paragraph 6(a), participate fully in the EEA relevant parts of the Telematics in Administration Committee (TAC) which assists the EC Commission in the implementation, management and development of that programme, as far as the EEA relevant project parts of the programme are concerned.
- 4.{³²¹} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the programme referred to in paragraph 6(b), participate fully, without the right to vote, in the EEA relevant parts of the Pan-European eGovernment Services Committee (PEGSCO), which assists the European Commission in the implementation, management and development of that programme, as far as the EEA relevant project parts of the programme are concerned.
- 5.{³²²} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the programme referred to in paragraph 6(c), participate fully, without the right to vote, in the EEA relevant parts of the Committee on interoperability solutions for European public administrations (the ISA Committee), which assists the European Commission in the implementation, management and development of that programme, as far as the EEA relevant project parts of the programme are concerned.
- 5a.{³²³} The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the programme referred to in paragraph 6(d), participate fully, without the right to vote, in the Committee on Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens (the ISA2 Committee), which assists the European Commission in the implementation, management and development of that programme.

6.{³²⁴} The following Community acts are the object of this article:

(a){³²⁵} with a view to participation as from 1 January 1997:

- {³²⁶} **395 D 0468**: Council Decision 95/468/EC of 6 November 1995 on a Community contribution for telematic interchange of data between administrations in the Community (IDA) (OJ L 269, 11.11.1995, p. 23).

- {³²⁷} **399 D 1719**: Decision No 1719/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 1999 on a series of guidelines, including the identification of projects of common interest, for trans-European networks for the electronic Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) (OJ L 203, 3.8.1999, p. 1), as amended by:

- {³²⁸} **32002 D 2046**: Decision No 2046/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2002 (OJ L 316, 20.11.2002, p. 4),

- {³²⁹} **32004 D 0787**: Decision No 787/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 12),

{³²⁰} Text of Paragraph 3 changed by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006 and subsequently the words “paragraph 5(a)” replaced by” paragraph 6(a)” by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40) e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

{³²¹} Paragraph 4 inserted by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006 and subsequently the words “paragraph 5(b)” replaced by” paragraph 6 (b)” by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40) e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

{³²²} Paragraph 5 inserted by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40) e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

{³²³} Paragraph 5a inserted by Decision No 162/2016 (OJ L 73, 15.3.2018, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 16, 15.3.2018, p. 41), e.i.f. 9.7.2016. It shall apply from 1 January 2016.

{³²⁴} The introductory sentence amended by Decision No 100/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.18), e.i.f. 15.12.2000, and subsequently renumbered by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006 and subsequently paragraph 5 renumbered as paragraph 6 by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40) e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

{³²⁵} The introductory sentence paragraph (a) inserted by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

{³²⁶} Indent added by Decision No 98/97 (OJ L 193, 9.7.1998, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 27, 9.7.1998, p. 107), e.i.f. 13.12.1997.

{³²⁷} Indent added by Decision No 100/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.18), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

{³²⁸} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 86/2003 (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.12.2003.

{³²⁹} Sub-indent added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

- ^{330} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).
- ^{331} **399 D 1720**: Decision No 1720/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 1999 adopting a series of actions and measures in order to ensure interoperability of and access to trans-European networks for the electronic Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) (OJ L 203, 3.8.1999, p. 9), as amended by:
 - ^{332} **32002 D 2045**: Decision No 2045/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2002 (OJ L 316, 20.11.2002, p. 1),
 - ^{333} **32004 D 0786**: Decision No 786/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 7),
 - ^{334} **32004 R 0885**: Council Regulation (EC) No 885/2004 of 26 April 2004 (OJ L 168, 1.5.2004, p. 1).
- (b)^{335} with a view to participation as from 1 January 2006:
 - **32004 D 0387**: Decision 2004/387/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on the interoperable delivery of pan-European eGovernment services to public administrations, businesses and citizens (IDABC) (OJ L 144, 30.4.2004, p. 65), as corrected by OJ L 181, 18.5.2004, p. 25.
 - ^{336} **32008 D 0049**: Commission Decision 2008/49/EC of 12 December 2007 concerning the implementation of the Internal Market Information System (IMI) as regards the protection of personal data (OJ L 13, 16.1.2008, p. 18).
- (c) ^{337} with a view to participation as from 1 January 2010:
 - **32009 D 0922**: Decision No 922/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on interoperability solutions for European public administrations (ISA) (OJ L 260, 3.10.2009, p. 20).
- (d) ^{338} with a view to participation as from 1 January 2016:
 - **32015 D 2240**: Decision (EU) 2015/2240 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 establishing a programme on interoperability solutions and common frameworks for European public administrations, businesses and citizens (ISA2 programme) as a means for modernising the public sector (OJ L 318, 4.12.2015, p. 1).
Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

^{330} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{331} Indent added by Decision No 100/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.18), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

^{332} Indent and words “, as amended by:” above, added by Decision No 86/2003 (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

^{333} Sub-indent added by Decision No 90/2004 (OJ L 349, 25.11.2004, p. 52 and EEA Supplement No 59, 25.11.2004, p. 26), e.i.f. 9.6.2004.

^{334} Indent added by Decision No 107/2005 (OJ L 306, 24.11.2005, p. 45 and EEA Supplement No 60, 24.11.2005, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.7.2005.

^{335} Paragraph (b) inserted by Decision No 41/2006 (OJ L 147, 1.6.2006, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 28, 1.6.2006, p. 28), e.i.f. 8.6.2006, it shall apply from 1.1.2006.

^{336} Sub-indent added by Decision No 109/2008 (OJ L 309, 20.11.2008, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 70, 20.11.2008, p. 28), e.i.f. 9.9.2010. Text of sub-indent (Commission Decision 2008/49/EC) shall be deleted by Decision No 102/2015 (OJ L 211, 4.8.2016, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 42, 4.8.2016, p. 53), e.i.f. pending.

^{337} Paragraph (c) inserted by Decision No 80/2010 (OJ L 244, 16.9.2010, p. 41 and EEA Supplement No 49, 16.9.2010, p. 40), e.i.f. 12.6.2010, it shall apply from 1 January 2010.

^{338} Paragraph (d) inserted by Decision No 162/2016 (OJ L 73, 15.3.2018, p. 36 and EEA Supplement No 16, 15.3.2018, p. 41), e.i.f. 9.7.2016. It shall apply from 1 January 2016.

*Article 18 {³³⁹}***Exchange between administrations of national officials**

1. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 1999, participate in the EEA relevant parts of the Community action plan and programme referred to in paragraph 4.
2. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the action plan and programme referred to in paragraph 4 in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
3. The EFTA States shall, as from the start of cooperation in the action plan and programme referred to in paragraph 4, participate fully in the EC committee which assists the EC Commission in the management or development of the action plan and programme, to the extent that the Committee is called upon to consider matters falling within the scope of the Agreement.
4. The following Community acts, as well as acts deriving therefrom, are the object of this Article:
 - **392 D 0481**: Council Decision 92/481/EEC of 22 September 1992 on the adoption of an action plan for the exchange between Member State administrations of national officials who are engaged in the implementation of Community legislation required to achieve the internal market (OJ L 286, 1.10.1992, p. 65), as amended by:
 - **398 D 0889**: Decision No 889/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 April 1998 (OJ L 126, 28.4.1998, p. 6).

*Article 19 {³⁴⁰}***Reduction of economic and social disparities**

1. The Contracting Parties shall strengthen their cooperation in reducing the economic and social disparities in the EEA through a financial contribution by the EEA EFTA States. For that purpose, a Financial Instrument shall be established for the period 1999-2003.
2. By virtue of Article 82(1)(c) of the Agreement, and subject to the modalities set out in Appendix 4 to this Protocol, the EEA EFTA States shall contribute the amount of EUR 119,6 million to the cooperation set out in paragraph 1 above. This contribution shall be made available for commitment in five equal annual tranches.

*Article 20 {³⁴¹}***Improving the competitiveness and socio-economic convergence and cohesion under the InvestEU Programme**

1. The EFTA States shall, as from 1 January 2022, participate in the activities which may result from the following Union act:
 - **32021 R 0523**: Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 (OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 30).
2. The EFTA States shall not participate in the InvestEU Advisory Hub.

^{339} Article added by Decision No 24/1999 (OJ L 148, 22.6.2000, p. 49 and EEA Supplement No 28, 22.6.2000, p. 256), e.i.f. 27.2.1999.

^{340} Article added by Decision No 47/2000 (OJ L 174, 13.7.2000, p. 59 and EEA Supplement No 32, 13.7.2000, p.8), e.i.f. 1.1.2001.

^{341} Article added by Decision No 226/2022 (OJ L 85, 23.3.2023, p. 48 and EEA Supplement No 24, 23.3.2023, p. 47), e.i.f. 9.7.2022. It shall apply from 1 January 2022.

3. The EFTA States may choose to participate in one or more financial products under the EU compartment of the InvestEU Fund. The contribution of the EFTA States shall be based on the risk profile of the financial products in which they choose to participate. The contribution from EFTA States shall increase the EU guarantee.
4. For the purpose of calculating the financial contribution of the EFTA States to the InvestEU Fund, the proportionality factor as stipulated in Article 82(1) of the EEA Agreement for budget lines shall not apply. In accordance with Article 8 of Protocol 32, the EFTA States shall enter into contribution agreements with the EU represented by the Commission. The contribution agreements shall establish the amounts of the EFTA States' financial contribution to the EU guarantee, lay down terms and conditions for the use of this contribution, establish the frequency and amounts of the payment of the contribution and establish rules for the reimbursement of unused funds and revenues to the EFTA States.
5. When the EFTA States' contribution to the EU guarantee is not providing provisioning in cash in full, i.e. the provisioning is set at less than 100%, the EFTA States shall commit to cover the respective contingent liability through an irrevocable, unconditional and on-demand back-to-back-guarantee. The back-to-back guarantee shall be provided concurrently with the signature of a contribution agreement.
6. Liechtenstein shall be exempted from the participation in, and the financial contribution to, this programme.

APPENDIX 1 TO PROTOCOL 31^{342}

HELIOS

II - WORK PROGRAMME 1995

1. CONSULTATIVE BODIES ⁽¹⁾

- ⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 93/136/EEC of 25 February 1993 establishing a third Community Action Programme to assist disabled people (OJ No L 56, 9.3.1993, p. 30).

Full participation on the same conditions as EC Member States, except in respect of voting procedures (if any) and those matters dealt with in the "Budgetary Aspects" section of this Work Programme.

1.1. ADVISORY COMMITTEE - three meetings

- two government representatives from each EFTA State.

^{342} Appendix added by Decision No 35/95 (OJ L 205, 31.8.1995, p. 39 and EEA Supplement No 32, 31.8.1995, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.2.1996.

1.2. EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM - three meetings.

- twelve existing European NGOs to represent the interests of disabled people and disability organizations in EFTA States
- two existing representatives of social partners to represent the interests of social partners in EFTA States
- one representative of national NGO or National Council of Disabled People nominated by each EFTA State.

1.3. LIAISON GROUP - three meetings

- one government representative from each EFTA State
- one person to represent EFTA National NGOs and National Councils of Disabled People who are members of the Forum.

2. WORKING GROUPS ⁽²⁾

⁽²⁾ Council Decision 94/782/EC of 6 December 1994 concerning the continuance of the Handynet system in the framework of the activities undertaken to date on the first technical aids module (OJ No L 316, 9.12.1994, p. 42).

Full participation on the same conditions as EC Member States, except in respect of voting procedures (if any) and those matters dealt with in the "Budgetary Aspects" section of this Work Programme.

2.1. HANDYNET TECHNICAL COORDINATION GROUP - three meetings

- one representative from each National Coordination Centre (NCC)

2.2. HANDYNET STUDY GROUP ON THESAURUS - three meetings

- one representative from each EFTA State.

2.3. HELIOS WORKING GROUP ON INTEGRATED EDUCATION - three meetings

- two government representatives from each EFTA State.

2.4. HELIOS WORKING GROUP ON EMPLOYMENT - three meetings

- one government representative from each EFTA State.

2.5. HELIOS WORKING GROUPS ON AN INDEPENDENT WAY OF LIFE

- Sport - two meetings

two representatives of the National Committee for Sport for Disabled People in each EFTA State
- Mobility and Transport - two meetings

two government representatives from each EFTA State
- Tourism - two meetings

three representatives from NGOs/Tourism organizations in each EFTA State.

3. EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES ⁽³⁾

- (³) Council Decision 93/136/EEC of 25 February 1993 establishing a third Community Action Programme to assist disabled people (OJ No L 56, 9.3.1993, p. 30).
- 3.1. Commission to provide each EFTA State with information about priority themes, work relating to them and results.
 - 3.2. EFTA States to be invited to nominate participants in the seminars/conferences which will be held for representatives of the "Activities" to draw conclusions from their work during the year.
 - 3.3. Planning and preparation for involvement of "Activities" in EFTA States in programme from 1 January 1996, including:
 - a. Nomination of "Activities" by EFTA States' Governments by 30 September 1995 - four sectors: Functional Rehabilitation, Educational Integration, Economic Integration, Social Integration/Independent Way of Life (Number of "Activities" to be agreed).
 - b. Initial meeting (symposium) for "Activities" in each sector and decisions on involvement in particular themes.
 4. HANDYNET

Full participation on the same conditions as EC Member States with the objective of the data base containing full information relevant to all EFTA States by 1 January 1996:

- NCCs to collect data and transfer it to HELIOS Team of Experts.
- HELIOS Team of Experts to incorporate data in CD-ROM; and supply updated CD-ROMs (three times during the year) - free of charge to NCCs and Data Collection Centres (DCCs).
- Information and Advisory Centres (IACs) to provide access to information on CD-ROM to disabled people, through networks, etc..

5. COOPERATION WITH NGOs (⁴)

(⁴) Council Decision 93/136/EEC of 25 February 1993 establishing a third Community Action Programme to assist disabled people (OJ No L 56, 9.3.1993, p. 30).

- 5.1. Commission to provide each EFTA State with information about the subjects and timing of events which are organized by NGOs and which receive a subsidy (up to 50%, and subject to a ceiling) from the HELIOS II Programme (EUROPROGRAMMES proposed by each of the twelve European NGOs on the Forum).
- 5.2. Representatives from EFTA States, NGOs, etc, to be invited to attend events which are not restricted to a particular organization or organizations.
- 5.3. European NGOs to consider requests for events to be organized and held in EFTA States to be included in EUROPROGRAMMES for 1996 and to present an opinion to the Commission for final decision. (EUROPROGRAMME events receive subsidies of up to 50% of total cost subject to a ceiling).

6. PUBLIC AWARENESS

- 6.1. Commission to distribute HELIOSCOPE (HELIOS Review), HELIOS Flash and other documentation to organizations and individuals within EFTA States on demand.
- 6.2. Annual day for disabled people (3 December) - organizations and individuals in EFTA States to be invited to participate in European level events.
- 6.3. HELIOS Competition and Prizes - participation in the annual conference.
- 6.4. Information stands (conferences, fairs, etc.)
Venues in EFTA States to be considered for inclusion in annual programme.

6.5. HELIOS National Information Day

1996

1 & 2 CONSULTATIVE BODIES and WORKING GROUPS

Participation as for 1995, but Commission to pay expenses for participants on following basis:

Government Representatives - travel costs

Others - travel costs, subsistence allowance, and allowance for incidental expenses.

Where a participant is accompanied by another person because of his or her disability that person's costs will be met on the same basis as those of the participant.

3. EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES

Full participation on the same conditions as EC Member States, including participation by representatives of nominated "Activities" in:

- study visits, training sessions etc organized to pursue specific themes - all costs to be met by Commission subject to a maximum amount for each "Activity"; and
- seminars/conferences held at end of year. All costs to be met by the Commission.

4. HANDYNET - As for 1995.

5. COOPERATION WITH NGOS

Full participation on the same conditions as EC Member States, including:

5.1. National NGSS and National Councils of Disabled People who are members of the Forum:

- to organize a national conference with a European dimension on a HELIOS II Priority Theme - Commission to pay 50% of costs subject to a ceiling;
- to participate in National Information Day - Commission to pay 100% of costs subject to a ceiling.

5.2. European NGOs - EUROPROGRAMMES to include events organized and held in EFTA States.

6. PUBLIC AWARENESS

6.1. As for 1995.

6.2. HELIOS Competition and Prizes:

- one member of jury to be appointed by each EFTA State;
- projects by organizations in EFTA States to be eligible for prizes;
- full participation in annual conference with costs to be met on same basis as for EC Member States.

HELIOS II - WORK PROGRAMME BUDGETARY ASPECTS**1995**

No direct contribution to the budget of the EC.

EFTA States pay:

- all their own costs relating to their participation

- all costs that relate to necessary services provided by the HELIOS Team of Experts such as salaries, travel and equipment costs incurred by the experts in consequence of the extension of the programme to the EFTA States;
- all costs related to additional staff appointed specifically to assist with the participation of the EFTA States.

Proposals for additional staff:

two experts to be appointed to the HELIOS Team of Experts in Brussels to assist with activities relating to Handynet; one secretary to be appointed to support them.

Note:

Preparations by budget experts of the EC and the EFTA States for the 1996 financial year will take place in the first half of 1995 following the procedure in Protocol 32 of the Agreement. These discussions will lead to final decisions on the financial contribution of the EFTA States to the general budget of the EC, and will also cover the question of additional staff.

1996

Full contribution to the budget of the EC (in accordance with Article 82 (1) (a) of the Agreement).

APPENDIX 2 TO PROTOCOL 31 ^{343}

1. The EFTA States shall participate in the medium-term Community Action Programme on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women (1 January 1996 to 31 December 2000).
2. The EFTA States shall contribute financially to the programme in accordance with Article 82(1)(a) of the Agreement.
3. The EFTA States shall participate fully in the EC committees which assist the Commission in the management, development and implementation of the action programme referred to in paragraph 1.

APPENDIX 3 TO PROTOCOL 31 ^{344}

Telematic interchange of data between administrations (IDA)

Work programme

The EFTA States shall participate only in the following Projects and Activities resulting from Article 2 of Council Decision 95/468/EC of 6 November 1995 on a Community contribution for telematic interchange of data between administrations in the Community (IDA):

- Practical Introduction of Electronic Mail on the Basis of X.400
- Horizontal Activities - (Architecture, Generic services, TESTA)
- Horizontal Action - Interoperability between national telematic systems
- Horizontal Actions - Generic Services - Monitoring of Market Offers

^{343} Appendix added by Decision No 55/96 (OJ L 85, 27.3.1997, p. 64 and EEA Supplement No 13, 27.3.1997, p. 1), e.i.f. 1.5.1997.

^{344} Appendix added by Decision No 98/97 (OJ L 193, 9.7.1998, p. 55 and EEA Supplement No 27, 9.7.1998, p. 107), e.i.f. 13.12.1997.

- Horizontal Activities - Information Content Interoperability
- Horizontal Activities - Legal and Security Aspects
- IDA Awareness and Promotion Activities
- Horizontal Activities - Quality Control and Project Support
- TESS (Telematics for Social Security) = SOSENET (Social Security Network)
- EURES (EUROpean Employment Services):

The possible participation by Liechtenstein shall be examined at the end of 1997, subject to the result of the joint review to which reference is made in Article 9 of Protocol 15 of the Agreement.

- EUPHIN - European Union Public Health Information Network
- ANIMO (Animal Movement):

Norway and Iceland shall participate from the date of entry into force of the EEA Joint Committee Decision incorporating the relevant Community acts into the EEA Agreement. The possible participation by Liechtenstein shall be examined at the end of 1998.

- PHYSAN - Common catalogues of varieties
- PHYSAN - Europhyt:

The EFTA States shall participate from the date of entry into force of the EEA Joint Committee Decision incorporating the relevant Community acts into the EEA Agreement.

- SHIFT (System to assist the Health Controls of Imports of items at Frontier Inspection posts from Third countries):

Norway and Iceland shall participate from the date of entry into force of the EEA Joint Committee Decision incorporating the relevant Community acts into the EEA Agreement.

The possible participation for Liechtenstein shall be examined at the end of 1998.

- ITCG (Illegal Traffic of Cultural Goods)
- SIMAP (Information System for Public Procurement)
- TARIC (Integrated Tariff of the Community)
- EBTI (European Binding Tariff Info)
- TRANSIT (Community/Common)
- CCN/CSI (Common Communications Network)
- EIONET (European Environment Agency Network)
- EMEA (European Medicine Evaluation Agency Network):

The EFTA States shall participate from the date of entry into force of the EEA Joint Committee Decision incorporating the relevant Community acts into the EEA Agreement.

- DSIS (Distributed Statistical Information Services)
- EXTRACOM
- SERT (Statistiques d'Entreprises et Réseaux Télématiques)
- STATEL - Generic Services (horizontal activities).

I.^{345} PROJECTS OF COMMON INTEREST

^{346} The EFTA States shall participate in the following projects of common interest in the sphere of trans-European networks for the interchange of data between administrations, resulting from Article 3(1) of Decision No 1719/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, as amended.

A. IN GENERAL

- Implementation of those networks required for the functioning of the European Agencies and bodies and in support of the legal framework arising from the creation of the European Agencies.
- Implementation of networks in the fields of policies related to the free movement of persons, in so far as they are required to support the action of the Contracting Parties to the present Agreement under that Agreement.
- Implementation of those networks which, within the framework of the present Agreement and in unforeseen circumstances, are urgently required to support the action of the Contracting Parties to the present Agreement, inter alia, in protecting the life and health of humans, animals and plants, the rights of European consumers, the living conditions of persons in the European Economic Area, or the fundamental interest of the Contracting Parties.
- ^{347} Implementation of networks which facilitate the cooperation between judicial authorities (This applies only for Iceland and Norway).

B. SPECIFIC NETWORKS SUPPORTING EMU AND COMMUNITY POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

- Telematic networks concerning Community funding, notably to create an interface to existing Commission databases in order to facilitate the access of European organisations, and particularly SMEs, to Community sources of funding.
- Telematic networks in the area of statistics, notably regarding the collection and dissemination of statistical information.
- Telematic networks in the area of publication of official documents.
- Telematic networks in the industry sector, notably concerning the exchange of information between administrations in charge of industrial affairs, and between such administrations and industry federations, for the exchange of data regarding automobile type-approved data interchange between administrations, as well as services to simplify and improve the process of administrative form filling.
- Telematic networks concerning competition policy, notably through the implementation of improved electronic data exchange with the national administrations in order to facilitate information and consultation procedures.
- ^{348} Telematic networks in the areas of education and culture, information, communication, and audio-visual sector, notably for the exchange of information concerning content issues on open networks and to promote the development and free circulation of new audio-visual and information services.

^{345} Paragraphs I and II added by Decision No 100/2000 (OJ L 7, 11.1.2001, p. 32 and EEA Supplement No 2, 11.1.2001, p.18), e.i.f. 15.12.2000.

^{346} Text replaced by Decision No 86/2003 (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

^{347} Indent added by Decision No 86/2003 (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

^{348} Indent replaced by Decision No 86/2003, (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

- Telematic networks in the transport sector, notably for the support of the exchange of data concerning drivers, vehicles and transport operators.
- {³⁴⁹} Telematic networks in the areas of tourism, environment, consumer protection and public health protection for the support of information exchange between the Contracting Parties to the present Agreement.
- {³⁵⁰} Telematic networks contributing to the objectives of the e-Europe initiative and related action plan, in particular the chapter on government online, aimed at benefiting citizens and enterprises.
- {³⁵¹} Telematic networks concerning immigration policy, notably through the implementation of improved electronic data exchange with the national administrations in order to facilitate information and consultation procedures (This applies only for Iceland and Norway).

C. INTERINSTITUTIONAL NETWORKS

- Telematic networks in support of the interinstitutional exchange of information, notably:
 - in facilitation of multilingualism in interinstitutional information exchanges, means of translation workflow management and translation support tools, the sharing/exchanging of multilingual resources, and the organisation of common access to terminology databases; and
 - for document sharing between European Agencies and bodies and the European institutions.

D. GLOBALISATION OF IDA NETWORKS

- Extension of IDA networks to the EEA, EFTA, CEECs and other associated countries, as well as to G7 countries and international organisations, in particular regarding the social security, healthcare, pharmaceutical and environmental networks.

II. HORIZONTAL ACTIONS AND MEASURES

The EFTA States shall participate in the following horizontal actions and measures in order to ensure interoperability of and access to trans-European networks for the electronic interchange of data between administrations (IDA) and resulting from Article 3(1) of Decision No 1720/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council:

- Generic services.
- Common tools and techniques.
- Information content interoperability.
- Reference legal and security practices.
- Quality assurance and control.
- Interoperability with national and regional initiatives.
- Spread of best practice.

APPENDIX 4 TO PROTOCOL 31 {³⁵²}

EEA Financial Instrument Modalities of implementation

1. Definitions

{³⁴⁹} Indent replaced by Decision No 86/2003, (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{³⁵⁰} Indent added by Decision No 86/2003, (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{³⁵¹} Indent added by Decision No 86/2003, (OJ L 257, 9.10.2003, p. 44 and EEA Supplement No 51, 9.10.2003, p. 29), e.i.f. 21.6.2003, it shall apply from 1.1.2003.

{³⁵²} Appendix added by Decision No 47/2000 (OJ L 174, 13.7.2000, p. 59 and EEA Supplement No 32, 13.7.2000, p. 8), e.i.f. 1.1.2001.

In what follows:

1. Beneficiary State is a State that receives funding from the EEA EFTA States according to Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 47/2000 of 22 May 2000. The Beneficiary State is represented by an authority to be nominated, charged with the management of the EEA EFTA funding in the country and with entering into contracts on projects with the Committee. The financial responsibility to the EEA EFTA States rests with the Beneficiary State.
2. Project Promoter is the body that sets up the project. The grants are paid to the Project Promoter via the Beneficiary State.
3. The Committee is the body set up by the EEA EFTA States to carry out the functions outlined in point 7.
4. The Monitoring Agent is an independent body that, on the basis of an agreement with the Beneficiary State, monitors the progress of the project and reports to the Beneficiary State and the Committee. The Monitoring Agent is appointed by the Beneficiary State on the basis of a proposal or an assessment and agreement of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and with the consent of the Committee.

2. The Beneficiary States

The Beneficiary States and their shares of the funds shall be as in the table below:

| Country | 1999 | 2000-2003 | Total |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Spain | EUR 10 859 680 | EUR 59 321 600 | EUR 70 181 280 |
| Portugal | EUR 5 023 200 | EUR 16 265 600 | EUR 21 288 800 |
| Greece | EUR 5 812 560 | EUR 16 265 600 | EUR 22 078 160 |
| Ireland | EUR 1 698 320 | EUR 3 827 200 | EUR 5 525 520 |
| UK (Northern Ireland) | EUR 526 240 | EUR 0 | EUR 526 240 |
| Total | EUR 23 920 000 | EUR 95 680 000 | EUR 119 600 000 |

3. Form of assistance

The assistance shall be entirely in the form of grants. A Beneficiary State may, however, present proposals to the Committee to use parts of its share for the reduction of the interest costs of projects mainly financed by loans. Any such support will also be given in the form of grants.

The EEA EFTA contribution shall not exceed 50% of the project cost, except in projects otherwise financed by central, regional or local government budget allocations, where the contribution may not exceed 85% of total cost. Community ceilings for co-financing shall not be exceeded in any case.

The responsibility of the EEA EFTA States for the projects is limited to providing funds according to the agreed plan, provided that the monitoring reports confirm project implementation in accordance with the project proposal.

4. Eligible activities

Funding shall be available for projects in the areas of environment, including urban renewal, reduction of urban pollution and securing the European cultural heritage, transport, including infrastructure, and education and training, including academic research. The Contracting Parties agree to aim at allocating at least 2/3 of the overall amount to projects in the area of environment, as defined above.

5. Projects

The total amount of EUR 119,6 million shall be made available for commitment at the rhythm of 20% per year commenced cumulatively as of 1999. Different parts of large projects can be separately presented for financing and the Committee will consider each project proposal on its own merits.

6. Monitoring requirements

A monitoring plan is established for each project together with the project plan and schedule, the budget and the payment schedule. It shall identify the crucial points in the project. The Monitoring Agent reports at important stages of the project, in accordance with the established plan, normally at least once a year, to the Beneficiary State and the Committee, giving, inter alia, the following information:

- Fulfilment of formal requirements relating to tendering and procurement of permits and certifications.
- Project progress compared with the original plan.
- Deviations, if any, in relation to, inter alia, budgets, disbursement schedules, contracts, physical implementation, completion date. Repercussions for the project's scope, expected benefits and time of completion. Measures taken to mitigate the consequences of deviations, when appropriate.
- Accounts of the project.
- Whether the advancement of the project meets the requirements for the payment of the next instalment.

If the report does not correspond to the agreed plan, the Committee may ask the Beneficiary State for complementary information. Questions limited to clarification and requests for information that is missing in the report may be addressed to the Monitoring Agent, with the Beneficiary State being kept duly informed. The Committee may decide not to authorise further payments until the report corresponds to the agreement. The EEA EFTA States may audit projects as specified in point 10(13).

7. Organisational set-up

The EFTA States shall establish a Committee that shall:

- Approve the projects for funding.
- Approve the monitoring and payment plan for every project.
- Supervise the overall functioning of the assistance, notably on the basis of the monitoring reports.
- Authorise payments to the beneficiaries according to the payment plan, on the basis of the monitoring reports.

The EIB shall:

- Appraise the proposed projects and report to the Beneficiary State.
- Propose, or assess and agree to, Monitoring Agents in the Beneficiary States, to be approved by the Committee and the Beneficiary State.

The Beneficiary States shall:

- Receive and endorse the projects to be financed.
- Present the projects to the EIB for appraisal and, subsequently, to the Commission and to the Committee, with the appraisal of the EIB.

The Commission shall:

Screen the proposed projects for their compatibility with Community objectives and, notably, rules for co-financing. In the latter scrutiny the EEA EFTA contributions shall be assimilated to Community financing.

The Monitoring Agents shall:

- Monitor the projects according to a reporting plan annexed to the approved project plan.
- Report to the Beneficiary State and to the Committee.

8. Language regime

The official languages of the EEA Agreement can be used. All documents submitted to the Committee must be provided by the Beneficiary State/Project Promoter in English translation.

9. Financial arrangements

The EEA EFTA States shall add a provision for appraisal and monitoring of 0,5% to each payment to the Beneficiary States, over and above the amount to be drawn on the agreed fund of EUR 119,6 million. All parties shall pay their own administrative costs.

The EIB, acting as a consultant to the Project Promoters/Beneficiary States, shall charge a fee to its principals for its services.

The EEA EFTA States shall implement an appropriate financial management. Payments to the Beneficiary States shall be made on the basis of orders of the Committee, which shall ensure timely execution. The accrued interest on the funds before the payment to beneficiaries belongs to the fund providers.

10. Short process description

1. Project Promoter proposes a project outline to the Beneficiary State.
- 2.^{353} Beneficiary State proposes the project outline to the Commission and the Committee in pre-consultation to validate the idea. The Committee may waive the requirement of pre-consultation, following a reasoned request from the Beneficiary State and based on objective criteria.
- 3.^{354} In case of a positive outcome of the pre-consultation or in case such pre-consultation has been waived, Project Promoter asks the EIB to appraise the project. The appraisal shall cover technical, economic, financial, and managerial aspects of the proposal.
4. Project Promoter submits the project plan, including budget, schedule, payment plan, monitoring plan and the EIB appraisal report, to the Beneficiary State.
5. Beneficiary State submits the project with the documents mentioned in (4) to the Commission for clearance on eligibility.
6. Beneficiary State submits the project with the documents mentioned in (4) simultaneously to the Committee for approval.
7. The Committee may ask for supplementary information or propose a revision to the project plan, notably to its monitoring/payment plan. The Committee approves the (revised) project or gives a reasoned refusal. If approved, a commitment letter specifying relevant conditions is sent to the Beneficiary State.
8. A contract is signed between the Monitoring Agent and the Beneficiary State, based on the monitoring plan.
9. A contract is signed between Project Promoter and Beneficiary State, and a grant agreement is signed between the Beneficiary State and the Committee.
10. The first instalment of 10% is paid to the Beneficiary State upon the Project Promoter signature of the contract with the contractor. Later instalments will take place according to the payment plan on a pro rata basis reflecting actual project implementation subsequent to a satisfactory monitoring report and approval by the Committee.
11. The Project Promoter carries out the project and the Monitoring Agent reports to the Beneficiary State and the Committee.
12. If payments cannot be executed according to the plan, consultations may take place between the Beneficiary State and the Committee.
13. If the Committee or the EFTA Board of Auditors wish to obtain information beyond that provided for in the monitoring plan, they may conduct their own audit or hire at their own cost an external auditor to audit the project. The Beneficiary State may accompany the auditor. The Project Promoter and any other entity managing the project on his behalf should grant the auditor the same access to information as they would grant to their national authorities or their own auditors, as appropriate.

^{353} Last sentence added by Decision No 165/2003, (OJ L 41, 12.2.2004, p. 69 and EEA Supplement No 7, 12.2.2004, p. 46), e.i.f. 8.11.2003.

^{354} First sentence replaced by Decision No 165/2003, (OJ L 41, 12.2.2004, p. 69 and EEA Supplement No 7, 12.2.2004, p. 46), e.i.f. 8.11.2003.

14. When the monitoring plan so requires, the Monitoring Agent shall produce a project completion report or an evaluation report.

11. Concluding remarks

Except when called for by changed circumstances, the operation of the new Financial Instrument will be conducted along the same lines as those followed in the administration of the outgoing Financial Mechanism. Supplementary documents may be established as appropriate.