



Brussels, 30.1.2014
COM(2014) 39 final

2014/0016 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

on the position to be taken by the European Union within the Joint Committee on Agriculture set up by the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products, as regards amendment of the Annex to the Additional Agreement between the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

The Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products¹ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Agreement’) entered into force on 1 June 2002.

Article 6 of the Agreement sets up a Joint Committee on Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Committee’), which is responsible for the administration of the Agreement and ensures its good functioning.

The Additional Agreement between the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein extending to the Principality of Liechtenstein the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products² (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Additional Agreement’) entered into force on 13 October 2007.

Pursuant to Article 2(2) of the Additional Agreement, the Joint Committee on Agriculture may amend the Annex to the Additional Agreement, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6 and 11 of the Agreement.

The Annex to the Additional Agreement should be amended in order to update the details of the competent Liechtenstein government agency and to take into account the amendments to Annex 7 and Annex 12 to the Agreement. The Annex to the Additional Agreement should therefore be amended accordingly.

2. RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATIONS WITH INTERESTED PARTIES AND IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The purpose of the proposal is simply to amend the Additional Agreement in order to update the details of the competent Liechtenstein government agency and to take into account the amendments to Annex 7 and Annex 12 to the Agreement. The text of the Joint Committee Decision has been drawn up in cooperation with the Swiss authorities. No impact assessment has been carried out.

3. LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSAL

The Decision is based on the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(4) in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof.

¹ OJ L 114, 30.4.2002, p. 132.

² OJ L 270, 13.10.2007, p. 6.

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(4) in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products³ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Agreement’) entered into force on 1 June 2002.
- (2) Article 6 of the Agreement sets up a Joint Committee on Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Committee’), which is responsible for the administration of the Agreement and ensures its good functioning.
- (3) The Additional Agreement between the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein extending to the Principality of Liechtenstein the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products⁴ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Additional Agreement’) entered into force on 13 October 2007.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 2(2) of the Additional Agreement, the Joint Committee on Agriculture may amend the Annex to the Additional Agreement, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6 and 11 of the Agreement.
- (5) The Annex to the Additional Agreement should be amended in order to update the details of the competent Liechtenstein government agency and to take into account the amendments to Annex 7 and Annex 12 to the Agreement. The Annex to the Additional Agreement should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (6) The position to be taken by the Union within the Committee should be based on the draft Decision annexed to this Decision,

³ OJ L 114, 30.4.2002, p. 132.

⁴ OJ L 270, 13.10.2007, p. 6.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The European Union position within the Joint Committee on Agriculture set up by Article 6 of the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on trade in agricultural products shall be based on the draft Decision of the Joint Committee on Agriculture annexed to this Decision.

Minor amendments to the draft Decision may be agreed to by the representatives of the Union within the Joint Committee on Agriculture without the need for a new Council Decision.

Article 2

The Decision of the Joint Committee on Agriculture shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President