

EC/Chile Association Agreement: accession of Croatia to the EU. Protocol

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PURPOSE: to conclude the Third Additional Protocol to the Agreement establishing an association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Chile, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Croatia to the European Union.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the Council adopts the act after consulting the European Parliament but without being obliged to follow its opinion.

BACKGROUND: the Agreement establishing an association between the European Community and its Member States, on the one hand, and Chile, on the other, was signed on 18 November 2002 in Brussels and entered into force on 1 March 2005.

On 14 September 2012, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the third countries concerned in view of the accession of Croatia to the EU. The negotiations with Chile were successfully concluded and the Protocol to the Agreement was signed on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

This proposal constitutes the legal instrument for the conclusion of the Third Additional Protocol to the Agreement to take account of Croatia's accession to the European Union.

It is now necessary to conclude the Protocol on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

CONTENT: under this proposal, the Council is called on to approve, on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, the Third Additional Protocol to the Agreement establishing an association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Chile, of the other part, to take account of the accession of Croatia to the European Union.

The Protocol incorporates Croatia as a contracting party to the Agreement. The texts of the Agreement and the Final Act in the Croatian language will become authentic under the same conditions as other language versions of the Agreement.

The Protocol will apply retroactively with effect from 1 July 2013.