EU/Bahamas Agreement: short-stay visa waiver

2017/0169(NLE) - 20/12/2018 - Final act

PURPOSE: to approve the conclusion of the amending agreement between the European Union and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas on the short-stay visa waiver.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2019/77 on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas on the short-stay visa waiver.

CONTENT: the Council approved, on behalf of the European Union, the Agreement between the EU and the Bahamas amending the Agreement on the short-stay visa waiver.

As a reminder, the Commission negotiated, on behalf of the Union an agreement with the Bahamas which amends the Agreement between the European Community and the Bahamas on the short-stay visa waiver. The amending agreement has been signed.

The amending agreement ensures legal coherence and harmonisation between Member States, in accordance with the new definition of short-term stay provided for by the amendment of the Schengen Borders Code. It therefore provides for a visa-free travel regime for EU citizens and citizens of the Bahamas travelling to the territory of the other Contracting Party for a stay of up to 90 days in any 180-day period.

This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which the United Kingdom and Ireland do not participate. Consequently, these two countries are not bound by this decision or subject to its application.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20.12.2018.