EC/Chile agreement: partnership and cooperation agreement

1996/0149(CNS) - 25/01/1999 - Final act

PURPOSE: the conclusion of the Framework Co-operation Agreement leading ultimately to the establishment of a political and economic association between the European Community and Chile. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Decision 127/1999/EC concerning the conclusion of the Framework Co-operation Agreement leading ultimately to the establishment of a political and economic association between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Chile, of the other part. CONTENT: The agreement is concluded for an indefinite period and seeks the strengthen the existing links between the parties by fostering the conditions that will lead ultimately to the establishment of a political and economic association between the European Community and its Member States and Chile. Respect for democratic principles and fundamental human rights are an essential element of this agreement. The main aspects of the agreement are as follow: - establishment of regular political dialogue - a Joint Declaration that is annexed defines how this will be conducted; - commercial aspects: promotion and diversification of trade, preparation for progressive and reciprocal liberalisation of trade and creating conditions conducive to the eventual establishment of a political and economic association, in conformity with WTO rules and with due allowance for the sensitivity of certain products, co-operation on standardisation, accreditation, certification, metrology and conformity evaluation, co-operation on customs, statistics, intellectual property and public procurement; - economic aspects: the Parties undertake to consolidate and expand all areas of economic co-operation by cultivating synergies in productive activities, creating new opportunities and increasing economic competitiveness. Economic co-operation shall be as broad-based as possible, without excluding any sector, a priori, and shall focus, in particular, on conserving the environment and promoting fundamental social rights in Chile. There are also provisions regarding industrial and business co-operation, co-operation on services, investment promotion, scientific and technological co-operation, especially in the fields of energy, transport, telecommunications, environmental protection and agriculture; - other fields of co-operation: social development, public administration, information, communication and culture, training and education, consumer protection, drug trafficking, and regional integration. Triangular co-operation is also foreseen as a means for promoting equitable and sustainable development with other countries in areas and sectors of mutual interest. To attain the co-operation aims set out in the Agreement, the Parties undertake to make available, within the limit of their abilities and through their own channels, the appropriate resources, including financial resources. They shall call on the EIB to step up activities in Chile. A Joint Council shall supervise the implementation of this Agreement. It shall meet at ministerial level periodically and whenever circumstances require. A Joint Committee, composed of Members of the Council of the EU and Members of the Commission, on the one hand, and of Chilean representatives, on the other, will assist the Joint Council in the performance of its duties. A Joint Subcommittee on Trade will ensure that the trade-relatedobjectives in the Agreement are fulfilled. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 01.01.1999.