

EC/Bulgaria agreement: association agreement, additional protocol after the 2004 enlargement

2004/0815(AVC) - 16/11/2004 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to conclude an additional Protocol between the EU and Bulgaria regarding the Europe Agreements to take account of the accession of the new EU Member States.

PROPOSED ACT : Council and Commission Decision.

CONTENT : in February 1995 the Europe Agreement between the EU on the one part and the Republic of Bulgaria on the other came into force. The Treaty of Accession, which allows for the accession of ten new EU Member States, entered into force in May 2004. With the accession of new Member States it has now become necessary to provide an Additional Protocol to the Europe Agreement binding the EU and Bulgaria. Consultations on the Protocol have taken account of the mutual interests of both the Community and Bulgaria. The implementation of the Protocol will take place in accordance with procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission. The text of the Decision is attached in an Annex. In addition to the annex the following specifics are outlined:

- The order numbers as attributed to the tariff quotas in the Annex to the Decision may be changed by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 4(2). Tariff quotas with an order number above 09.5100 shall be administered by the Commission in accordance with provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation 2913/92/EEC establishing the Community Customs Code.
- Quantities of goods subject to tariff quotas and released for free circulation as from 1 July 2004 under the concessions provided for in Annex A(b) of the Protocol approved under Decision 2003/286/EC shall be fully counted against the quantities provided for in the fourth column in Annex A(b) to the Additional Protocol attached to the Decision, except for quantities for which import licences were issued before 1 July 2004.
- The Commission shall be assisted by the Management Committee for Sugar as set up by Article 42 of Council Regulation 1260/2001/EC on the common organisation of the market in the sugar sector or, where appropriate, by the committee set up by the relevant provisions of the other Regulations on the common organisation of agricultural markets.