Basic information

2003/0160(AVC) AVC - Assent procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of the acceding countries in 2004 **Subject** 6.40.01 Relations with EEA/EFTA countries 8.20.08 Enlargement's economic and monetary point of view	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	BERENGUER FUSTER Luis (PSE)	21/01/2004

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2552	2003-12-08
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2698	2005-12-06

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
External Relations	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/07/2003	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(2003)0439	Summary
21/11/2003	Legislative proposal published	11902/2003	Summary
15/12/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/01/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
26/01/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0054/2004	
10/02/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0062/2004	Summary

06/12/2005	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
06/12/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		
02/06/2006	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/0160(AVC)
Procedure type	AVC - Assent procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 310 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3 Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/19980

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0054/2004	26/01/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0062/2004 OJ C 097 22.04.2004, p. 0028-0067 E	10/02/2004	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	11902/2003	21/11/2003	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Initial legislative proposal	COM(2003)0439	23/07/2003	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2006/0377
OJ L 149 02.06.2006, p. 0028-0029 Summary

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of the acceding countries in 2004

2003/0160(AVC) - 10/02/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Luis BERENGUER FUSTER (PES, E) and gave its assent to the conclusion of the Agreement.

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of the acceding countries in 2004

2003/0160(AVC) - 21/11/2003 - Legislative proposal

On 21 November 2003, the Council formally approved the agreements and protocols stemming from negotiations led by the Commission in view of the participation of the 10 accession countries to the European Economic Area (concluded on 3 July 2003). (Please refer to the previous text).

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of the acceding countries in 2004

2003/0160(AVC) - 06/12/2005 - Final act

PURPOSE : to conclude an Agreement on the participation of the ten new Member States in the EEA.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Decision 2006/377/EC on the conclusion of an Agreement on the participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area and four related agreements

CONTENT : Article 128 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA) stipulates that all countries becoming members of the European Union must also apply to become contracting parties to the EEA Agreement. Following the successful conclusion of the enlargement negotiations the ten new Member States applied to join the EEA Agreement.

The EEA enlargement "package" consists of a main agreement together with four related agreements, each of the five agreements being linked to one another:

Main agreement: the agreement on the participation of the new Member States defines the amendments to the EEA Agreement in the context of EEA enlargement. The bulk of the amendments originate from the EU Act of Accession. The arrangements for the application of Community acquis by the new Member States upon accession to the EU, such as technical adaptations and transition periods, which have been agreed in the EU enlargement negotiations, are taken over from the Act of Accession in the EEA Agreement. The acts are listed in annexes A and B to the main agreement.

The EEA EFTA countries will also contribute **EUR 600 million** over a five-year period to alleviating social and economic disparities in the enlarged EEA.

The four related agreements: the elements of the negotiation result that are not incorporated into the EEA Agreement itself are contained in:

- a bilateral EC-Norway agreement on a Norwegian financial mechanism in the form of an exchange of letters;
- an additional protocol to the EC-Iceland Free Trade Agreement of 1972;
- an additional protocol to the EC-Norway Free Trade Agreement of 1973;
- a bilateral EC-Norway agreement on certain agricultural products.

According to the bilateral EC-Norway agreement on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period 2004 - 2009, Norway will make a bilateral financial contribution of **EUR 567 million** over this five-year period, in addition to the EUR 600 million of the multilateral EEA financial mechanism for the same period. Both the multilateral and the bilateral contributions will be administered separately, but in close co-ordination, using identical application procedures and criteria. The Additional Protocols to the EC-Iceland and the EC-Norway Free Trade Agreements set out the negotiation results in the field of marine products with respect to Iceland and Norway. The Community will open duty free quotas for the processing industry on

frozen round mackerel and frozen filet of herring for Norway and whole frozen herring for Norway and Iceland. According to the bilateral EC-Norway agreement in the form of an exchange of letters, concerning certain agricultural products.

ENTRY INTO FORCE : most of the provisions of this agreement enter into force on 06/12/2005.

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of the acceding countries in 2004

2003/0160(AVC) - 23/07/2003 - Initial legislative proposal

PURPOSE :to conclude an Agreement on the participation of the accession countries in the European Economic Area and four related agreements. CONTENT : Article 128 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA) stipulates that all countries becoming members of the European Union must also apply to become contracting parties to the EEA Agreement. Following the successful conclusion of the enlargement negotiations at the December 2002 Copenhagen European Council, Cyprus, the Czech republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, the Slovak republic and Slovenia ("Acceding Countries") applied to join the EEA Agreement. As the EEA Agreement is a mixed agreement, the Council adopted, on 9 December 2002, a mandate, enabling the Commission to negotiate both for the Community and for the current Member States. The EEA EFTA countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway negotiated individually, as did the Acceding Countries. Nevertheless, the Commission ensured close cooperation with the Acceding Countries and the current Member States throughout the negotiations. The EEA enlargement negotiations were officially launched on 9 January 2003 and concluded on 3 July 2003. The EEA enlargement "package" consists of a main agreement together with four related agreements, each of the five agreements being linked to one another: 1) Main agreement : the agreement on the participation of the Acceding Countries defines the amendments to the EEA Agreement in the context of EEA enlargement. The bulk of the amendments originate from the EU Act of Accession. The arrangements for the application of Community acquis by the Acceding Countries upon accession to the EU, such as technical adaptations and transition periods, which have been agreed in the EU enlargement negotiations, are taken over from the Act of Accession in the EEA Agreement. The concerned acts are listed in annexes A and B to the main agreement. The EEA EFTA countries will also contribute EUR 600 million over a five-year period to alleviating social and economic disparities in the enlarged EEA. The elements of the negotiation result that are not incorporated into the EEA Agreement itself are contained in four related agreements: - A bilateral EC-Norway agreement on a Norwegian financial mechanism in the form of an exchange of letters; - an additional protocol to the EC-Iceland Free Trade Agreement of 1972; - an additional protocol to the EC-Norway Free Trade Agreement of 1973; - a bilateral EC-Norway agreement on certain agricultural products. According to the bilateral EC-Norway agreement on a Norwegian Financial Mechanism for the period 2004 - 2009, Norway will make a bilateral financial contribution of EUR 567 million over this five-year period, in addition to the EUR 600 million of the multilateral EEA financial mechanism for the same period. Both the multilateral and the bilateral contributions will be administered separately, but in close co-ordination, using identical application procedures and criteria. The Additional Protocols to the EC-Iceland and the EC-Norway Free Trade Agreements set out the negotiation results in the field ofmarine products with respect to Iceland and Norway. The Community will open duty free quotas for the processing industry on frozen round mackerel and frozen filet of herring for Norway and whole frozen herring for Norway and Iceland. According to the bilateral EC-Norway agreement in the form of an exchange of letters, concerning certain agricultural products. Lastly, it should be added that a provision according to which each of the above texts should enter into force simultaneously has been introduced in the main agreement and the four related agreements. The final act also includes various declarations made by one, more or all contracting parties to the agreement.