Basic information

2007/0115(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of Bulgaria and Romania **Subject** 6.40.01 Relations with EEA/EFTA countries 8.20.03 Enlargement 2007: Bulgaria and Romania	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	MARKOV Helmuth (GUE /NGL)	27/06/2007

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2816	2007-07-23
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3122	2011-11-08

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
External Relations	ASHTON Catherine

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
12/06/2007	Preparatory document	COM(2007)0333	Summary
12/09/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
10/10/2007	Legislative proposal published	12641/2007	Summary
23/10/2007	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/10/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0413/2007	

13/11/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0492/2007	Summary
13/11/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
02/12/2009	Additional information		Summary
08/11/2011	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
08/11/2011	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/11/2011	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2007/0115(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 217
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/6/50585

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE392.167	18/07/2007	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0413/2007	25/10/2007	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0492/2007	13/11/2007	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	10834/1/2007	18/07/2007	Summary
Legislative proposal	12641/2007	10/10/2007	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2007)0333	12/06/2007	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2011/0733 OJ L 294 12.11.2011, p. 0004	Summary

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of Bulgaria and Romania

2007/0115(NLE) - 13/11/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Helmuth **MARKOV** (GUE/NGL, DE) on the proposal for the conclusion of an agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area and four related agreements. The European Parliament gave its assent to the conclusion of the agreements.

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of Bulgaria and Romania

2007/0115(NLE) - 18/07/2007 - Document attached to the procedure

Following their accession to the European Union, Bulgaria and Romania (EEA Applicant Countries) have applied to become Contracting Parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA Agreement) pursuant to Article 128 thereof.

To that end, the Commission has negotiated, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, with Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the EEA Applicant Countries an Agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area ("EEA") and four related agreements, being:

- Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Kingdom of Norway concerning a Cooperation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Bulgaria;
- Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Kingdom of Norway concerning a Cooperation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Romania;
- Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland consequent on the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union; and
- Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway consequent on the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

The negotiations were concluded on 29 March 2007.

Pending the completion of the procedures required to bring them into force and in order to maintain the good functioning of the internal market within the European Economic Area, the said agreements should be **applied on a provisional basis** pursuant to Agreements in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Kingdom of Norway, respectively.

This is the intended purpose of this proposal. No changes have been made to the former initial proposal (see the summary dated 12/06/2007).

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of Bulgaria and Romania

2007/0115(NLE) - 10/10/2007 - Legislative proposal

This proposal constitutes the final act of the Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement on the participation of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area and four related agreements.

No changes have been made to the content of the Agreement. It is in line with the former initial proposal (see the summary dated 12/06/2007).

This draft decision aims to formally approve the following agreements on behalf of the European Community:

- Agreement on the participation of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area;
- Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Kingdom of Norway concerning a Co-operation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Bulgaria;
- Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Kingdom of Norway concerning a Co-operation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Romania;
- Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Iceland consequent on the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union;
- Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway consequent on the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of Bulgaria and Romania

2007/0115(NLE) - 12/06/2007 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to sign, and provisionally apply, the Agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area and four related Agreements.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

CONTENT: following the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the EU the two acceding countries are required to become contracting parties to the EEA Agreement. The Commission, together with Bulgaria and Romania, negotiated with the EEA EFTA States, namely Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, on the modalities of the Agreement. Launched officially in July 2006 the negotiations were only concluded on 29 March 2007.

The purpose of this proposal is for the Council to adopt the Council Decision on the signing, and provisional application, of the amended EEA Agreement and four related Agreements. The main Agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the EEA defines the amendment to the EEA Agreement, with the bulk of amendments stemming from the Treaty of Accession.

However, technical provisions aside, the EEA enlargement process included negotiations concerning financial contributions and fish concessions. Following extensive negotiations and delays the following was finally agreed:

- The financial contribution and fish concessions will apply only from 1 January 2007 to 30 April 2009.

- Between 2007 and 30 April 2009, the EEA EFTA States will provide, € 21.5 million to Bulgaria and € 50.5 million to Romania through the EEA financial mechanism.

- Over the same time frame (i.e. 2007 and 30 April 2009) Norway will provide € 20 million to Bulgaria and € 48 million to Romania as additional bilateral financing.

- In return, the Community will grant Norway and Iceland a number of concessions in the field of fisheries – also limited in time until 30 April 2009.

As the negotiations suffered unfortunate delays and were not concluded until 29 March 2007, the Commission urges that the new Agreement enters into force as soon as possible. Hence the need for a provisions application. Among the various declarations included in the final act of the Agreement it is worth noting that all parties declare not to have any claims in the field of agriculture and processed agricultural products.

EEA agreement and related agreements: participation of Bulgaria and Romania

2007/0115(NLE) - 08/11/2011 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area and four related Agreements.

NON LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision 2011/733/EU on the conclusion of an Agreement on the participation of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area and four related agreements.

BACKGROUND: the Agreement on the participation Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area and four related agreements were signed, on behalf of the European Community, on 25 July 2007, in accordance with Council Decision 2007/566/EC, subject to their conclusion at a later date.

Those Agreements should now be approved.

CONTENT : this Decision approves the following agreements on behalf of the European Union:

- Agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the European Economic Area;

- Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and Norway concerning a Cooperation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Bulgaria;

- Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and Norway concerning a Cooperation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Romania, Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European

- Economic Community and Iceland consequent on the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union, and

- Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Norway consequent on the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

The main Agreement on the participation of Bulgaria and Romania in the EEA defines the amendment to the EEA Agreement, **following enlargement of the EEA**. The bulk of amendments stem from the Treaty 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.

Aside from the technical adaptations, the EEA enlargement agreement for Bulgaria and Romania has been negotiated on the basis that any substantial modalities, notably concerning **financial contributions** and **fishing concessions**, are agreed only for a certain period t, i.e. from 1 January 2007 to 30 April 2009.

On that basis, it is provided that:

- the EEA EFTA States will provide EUR 21.5 million for Bulgaria and EUR 50.5 million for Romania through the EEA financial mechanism from 1 January 2007 to 30 April 2009, when the current financial mechanisms expire;

- Norway will provide EUR 20 million for Bulgaria and EUR 48 million for Romania as additional bilateral financial contributions over the same period.

In return, it is the Community grant Norway and Iceland a **number of concessions in the field of fisheries,** also limited in time until 30 April 2009.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: the Decision enters into force on 9 November 2011. The date of entry into force of the Agreements will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.