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II

(Non-legislative acts)

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1987

of 5 October 2015

on the conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43 in conjunction with point(a) of the second subparagraph of Article 218(6) and Article 218(7) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the consent of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) On 17 March 2008, the Council approved, by means of Regulation (EC) No 241/2008 ⁽¹⁾, the conclusion of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau ('the Agreement').
- (2) The Union and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau have negotiated a new Protocol ('the Protocol') granting Union vessels fishing opportunities in waters in which the Republic of Guinea-Bissau exercises sovereignty or jurisdiction with regard to fishing.
- (3) The Protocol was signed on 24 November 2014 in accordance with Decision 2014/782/EU ⁽²⁾, and has been applied provisionally from the date of its signature.
- (4) The Agreement set up a Joint Committee which is responsible for monitoring the application of the Agreement. Furthermore, in accordance with the Protocol, the Joint Committee may approve certain modifications to the Protocol. In order to facilitate the approval of such modifications, it is appropriate to empower the Commission, subject to specific conditions, to approve them under a simplified procedure.
- (5) The Protocol should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau is hereby approved on behalf of the Union ⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 241/2008 of 17 March 2008 on the conclusion of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (OJ L 75, 18.3.2008, p. 49).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 328, 13.11.2014, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ The Protocol was published in OJ L 328, 13.11.2014, p. 3 together with the decision on signing.

Article 2

The President of the Council shall, on behalf of the Union, give the notification provided for in Article 19 of the Protocol ⁽¹⁾.

Article 3

Subject to the provisions and conditions set out in the Annex, the Commission shall be empowered to approve, on behalf of the Union, modifications to the Protocol in the Joint Committee.

Article 4

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, 5 October 2015.

For the Council
The President
N. SCHMIT

⁽¹⁾ The date of entry into force of the Protocol will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* by the General Secretariat of the Council.

ANNEX

Scope of the empowerment and procedure for the establishment of the Union position in the Joint Committee

1. The Commission shall be authorised to negotiate with the Republic of Guinea Bissau and, where appropriate and subject to complying with point 3 of this Annex, agree modifications to the Protocol in respect of the following issues:
 - (a) adjustment of fishing opportunities and of the financial contribution in accordance with Articles 6 and 7 of the Protocol;
 - (b) a decision on the rules on sectoral support in accordance with Article 3 of the Protocol;
 - (c) technical specifications and procedures falling within the powers of the Joint Committee in accordance with the Annex to the Protocol.
 2. In the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement, the Union shall:
 - (a) act in accordance with the objectives pursued by the Union within the framework of the Common Fisheries Policy;
 - (b) follow the Council Conclusions of 19 March 2012 on a Communication on the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy;
 - (c) promote positions that are consistent with the relevant rules adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations.
 3. When a decision on modifications to the Protocol as referred to in point 1 is expected to be adopted during a Joint Committee meeting, the necessary steps shall be taken so that the position to be expressed on behalf of the Union takes account of the latest statistical, biological and other relevant information transmitted to the Commission.

To this effect and based on that information, a document setting out the particulars of the proposed Union position shall be transmitted by the Commission, in sufficient time before the relevant Joint Committee meeting, to the Council or to its preparatory bodies for consideration and approval.

In respect of issues referred to in point 1(a), the approval of the envisaged Union position by the Council shall require a qualified majority of votes. In the other cases, the Union position envisaged in the preparatory document shall be deemed to be agreed, unless a number of Member States equivalent to a blocking minority objects during a meeting of the Council's preparatory body or within 20 days from receipt of the preparatory document, whichever occurs earlier. In case of such objection, the matter shall be referred to the Council.

If, in the course of further meetings, including on the spot, it is impossible to reach an agreement in order for the Union position to take account of new elements, the matter shall be referred to the Council or its preparatory bodies.
 4. The Commission shall be invited to take, in due time, any steps necessary as a follow-up to the decision of the Joint Committee, including, where appropriate, publication of the relevant decision in the *Official Journal of the European Union* and submission of any proposal necessary for the implementation of that decision.
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COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1988**of 22 October 2015****on the signing, on behalf of the Union, of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and Kosovo (*), of the other part**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 37 in conjunction with Article 31(1) thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 217, in conjunction with Article 218(5) and the second subparagraph of Article 218(8) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) On 21 June 2013 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with Kosovo for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement ('the Agreement'). The negotiations were successfully concluded by the initialling of the Agreement on 25 July 2014.
- (2) The Union and Kosovo have strong links and share values and a desire to strengthen those links and establish a close and lasting relationship based on reciprocity and mutual interest, which should allow Kosovo to further strengthen and extend its relations with the Union.
- (3) The 'First agreement on principles governing the normalisation of relations' was reached on 19 April 2013 in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue.
- (4) The Agreement provides for the establishment of an association between the Union and Kosovo involving reciprocal rights and obligations, common actions and special procedure. It also contains provisions falling within the scope of Chapter 2 of Title V of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) concerning the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the Union. The decision to sign the Agreement should therefore be based on the legal basis providing for the establishment of an association allowing the Union to enter into commitments in all areas covered by the Treaties and on the legal basis for agreements in areas covered by Chapter 2 of Title V of the TEU.
- (5) This is an EU-only agreement. The commitments and cooperation to be entered into by the Union under this Agreement relate only to the areas covered by the EU *acquis* or existing Union policies. The signing and conclusion of the Agreement as an EU-only Agreement is without prejudice to the nature and scope of any similar agreements to be negotiated in the future. It is also without prejudice to the powers of the EU institutions conferred on them in the Treaties and the positions of EU institutions and Member States on competences. The Agreement provides for wide-ranging cooperation in various policy areas, including in justice and home affairs.
- (6) The signing of the Agreement is without prejudice to Member States' position on the status of Kosovo, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.
- (7) In addition, none of the terms, wording or definitions used in this Decision and the Agreement, nor any recourse to all the necessary legal bases for the signing of the Agreement, constitute recognition of Kosovo by the Union as an independent State nor does it constitute recognition of Kosovo by individual Member States in that capacity where they have not previously taken such a step. It is appropriate, in that context that a declaration be issued in that regard by the Union at the moment of signature of this Agreement.

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

- (8) The signing of the Agreement as regards matters falling under the competence of the European Atomic Energy Community is subject to a separate procedure.
- (9) The Agreement should be signed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The signing, on behalf of the Union, of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, and Kosovo is hereby authorised for the parts falling under the TEU and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union subject to the conclusion of the said Agreement ⁽¹⁾.

Article 2

The Declaration on behalf of the Union attached to this Decision is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

Article 3

This Decision is without prejudice to Member States' and the Union's position on the status of Kosovo.

Article 4

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Union.

Article 5

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 22 October 2015.

For the Council
The President
F. ETGEN

⁽¹⁾ The text of the Agreement will be published together with the decision on its conclusion.

Declaration on behalf of the Union

'The decision to sign the Stabilisation and Association Agreement subject to its conclusion at a later date, including the legal bases used in that regard, is without prejudice to Member States' positions on status and does not constitute recognition of Kosovo (*) by the Union as an independent State, nor does it constitute recognition by individual Member States in that capacity where they have not previously taken such a step.'

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1989**of 26 October 2015****on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 31(1) and Article 37 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 180 and Article 218(5) thereof,

Having regard to the joint proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and of the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) On 21 October 2013, the Council authorised the Commission and the High Representative to open negotiations for the establishment of an Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community ('Euratom'), acting as one Party, Georgia, Japan, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the United States of America ('the Agreement').
- (2) Those negotiations have been successfully completed and the Agreement was initialled on 22 June 2015.
- (3) The conclusion of the Agreement is subject to a separate procedure as regards matters falling within the competence of Euratom.
- (4) The Agreement should be signed on behalf of the Union.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The signing on behalf of the Union of the Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center is hereby authorised, subject to the conclusion of the said Agreement ⁽¹⁾.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Union.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 26 October 2015.

For the Council

The President

F. MOGHERINI

⁽¹⁾ The text of the Agreement will be published together with the decision on its conclusion.

COUNCIL DECISION (EURATOM) 2015/1990**of 26 October 2015****approving the conclusion, by the European Commission, on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, of the Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 4 and the second paragraph of Article 101 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) On 21 October 2013, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations for the establishment of an Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community ('Euratom') acting as one Party, Georgia, Japan, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the United States of America ('the Agreement').
- (2) Those negotiations have been successfully completed and the Agreement was initialled on 22 June 2015.
- (3) The Agreement also covers matters falling under competences of Euratom.
- (4) The signing of the Agreement is subject to a separate procedure as regards matters falling under the Treaty on European Union and Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (5) The conclusion of the Agreement by the Commission, acting on behalf of Euratom, should be approved as regards matters falling within the competence of Euratom,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The conclusion by the European Commission, on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, of the Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center is hereby approved ⁽¹⁾.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 26 October 2015.

For the Council

The President

F. MOGHERINI

⁽¹⁾ The text of Agreement will be attached to the Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement continuing the International Science and Technology Center.

REGULATIONS

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2015/1991

of 5 November 2015

amending Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 laying down detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 on the common organisation of the market in wine as regards support programmes, trade with third countries, production potential and on controls in the wine sector

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 70 and 145(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Chapter III of Title I of Part II of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 lays down rules concerning duration, management and control of the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings which replaces the transitional planting right regime set out in Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽²⁾. It also contains provisions empowering the Commission to adopt implementing acts concerning management and control of that scheme. However, in accordance with Article 230(1)(b)(ii) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 the transitional planting right regime set out in Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 remains applicable until 31 December 2015.
- (2) Chapter II of Title IV of Commission Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 ⁽³⁾ contains rules on the transitional planting rights regime and specifies the communication obligations of Member States concerning the implementation of that regime. In view of the application of the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings as of 1 January 2016 and the notification obligations concerning that new scheme set out in Article 11 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/561 ⁽⁴⁾, it is necessary to specify which communication obligations set out in Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 will continue to apply in 2016. Furthermore, in order to ensure that the Commission receives all the information concerning the implementation of the transitional planting rights regime between 1 August 2014 and 31 December 2015 and is informed of the inventory of planting rights on 31 December 2015 for the controllability of Article 68 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, it is also necessary to amend the reference dates and set the final date for certain communication obligations.
- (3) Articles 61 and 65(5) of Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 lay down details on yearly communication obligations related to new planting rights and planting rights in reserves. Those provisions need to be amended to set the deadline by which the communications should be done for the last time and the reference period to be considered for those final communications.
- (4) In accordance with Article 230(1)(b)(i) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 concerning unlawful plantings continue to apply until the areas concerned are grubbed up. Therefore, Chapter I of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 on unlawful plantings should also continue to apply after 1 January 2016 to those unlawful plantings which have been detected before 31 December 2015 and are not yet grubbed up by that date and until such areas are grubbed up. However, in order to eliminate

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 of 22 October 2007 establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) (OJ L 299, 16.11.2007, p. 1).

⁽³⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 of 27 June 2008 laying down detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 on the common organisation of the market in wine as regards support programmes, trade with third countries, production potential and on controls in the wine sector (OJ L 170, 30.6.2008, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/561 of 7 April 2015 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings (OJ L 93, 9.4.2015, p. 12).

communication obligations which are no longer relevant, and to clarify the conditions under which Member States may no longer have the obligation to submit yearly communications on unlawful plantings, it is necessary to amend Article 58 of Regulation (EC) No 555/2008.

- (5) Chapter IV of Title IV of Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 contains rules on inventory and measurement of the area planted. Article 74 lays down details on yearly communication obligations related to the inventory of wine-growing areas and of planting rights. This provision needs to be amended to set the deadline by which the communications on the inventory of planting rights and the inventory of main wine grape varieties should be done for the last time, and the reference date to be considered for those final communications. To have the information on the total of planting rights that could be converted into authorisations after 1 January 2016 in application of Article 68 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, that reference date should be the last date of operation of the planting rights regime, i.e. 31 December 2015. Furthermore, these final communications should not include the information on the inventory of wine-growing areas, since the communication on that subject is replaced by the communication referred to in Article 11(1)(a) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/561 from 1 January 2016.
- (6) Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (7) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Common Organisation of Agricultural Markets,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Amendment of Regulation (EC) No 555/2008

Regulation (EC) No 555/2008 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 58 is replaced by the following:

'Article 58

Communications

1. Member States shall communicate to the Commission by 1 March each year the areas for which penalty was paid and the amount of penalty that was actually imposed in the form set out in Table 1 of Annex XIII. They shall also communicate to the Commission their legislation related to these penalties.

Such obligation shall no longer apply to those Member States where no unlawful plantings remain to be grubbed up.

2. Save as otherwise indicated in the appropriate tables of Annex XIII to this Regulation, the communications referred to in Article 85c(3), Article 188a(1) and Article 188a(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 shall refer to the previous wine year.

The yearly communications shall be made in the forms set out in Tables 3 and 7 of Annex XIII to this Regulation.

3. Member States may decide whether or not to include details related to regions in the communications referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.'

- (2) Article 61 is replaced by the following:

'Article 61

Member States communication obligations related to new planting rights

Member States shall communicate to the Commission by 1 March 2016 the following information in respect of the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 December 2015:

- (a) the total areas for which new planting rights have been granted in accordance with each of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 60; and

- (b) the total area for which new planting rights have been granted cumulatively in accordance with Article 85h of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007; where a Member State makes use of the derogation provided for in Article 60(6) of this Regulation, it shall instead communicate an estimate of the total area concerned, which shall be based on the results of the monitoring carried out.

This communication shall be made in the form set out in Table 8 of Annex XIII to this Regulation.

Member States may decide whether or not to include details related to regions in the communication.'

- (3) In Article 65, paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:

'5. Member States shall, in the form laid down in Table 9 of Annex XIII, communicate to the Commission by 1 March 2016 the following information in respect of the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 December 2015:

- (a) the planting rights allocated to the reserves;
(b) the planting rights granted from the reserve against or without payment.'

- (4) Article 74 is replaced by the following:

'Article 74

Inventory

The data communicated in the inventory in accordance with Article 145(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 by 1 March 2016 shall refer to 31 December 2015.

It shall contain the information specified in Tables 15 and 16 of Annex XIII to this Regulation. Member States may decide whether or not to include details related to regions in the communication.'

- (5) In Annex XIII, Table 14 is deleted.

Article 2

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2016.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 5 November 2015.

For the Commission

The President

Jean-Claude JUNCKER

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2015/1992**of 5 November 2015****establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 of 7 June 2011 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 in respect of the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables sectors ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 136(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in Annex XVI, Part A thereto.
- (2) The standard import value is calculated each working day, in accordance with Article 136(1) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011, taking into account variable daily data. Therefore this Regulation should enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The standard import values referred to in Article 136 of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 543/2011 are fixed in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 5 November 2015.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,*

Jerzy PLEWA
Director-General for Agriculture and Rural Development

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 157, 15.6.2011, p. 1.

ANNEX

Standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

(EUR/100 kg)		
CN code	Third country code ⁽¹⁾	Standard import value
0702 00 00	AL	47,7
	MA	67,0
	MK	44,1
	TR	74,5
	ZZ	58,3
0707 00 05	AL	91,1
	TR	158,2
	ZZ	124,7
0709 93 10	MA	135,7
	TR	154,3
	ZZ	145,0
0805 20 10	CL	168,7
	MA	95,6
	PE	167,8
	TR	83,5
	ZA	150,6
	ZZ	133,2
0805 20 30, 0805 20 50, 0805 20 70, 0805 20 90	PE	122,2
	TR	107,9
	ZA	117,1
	ZZ	115,7
0805 50 10	TR	113,2
	UY	53,9
	ZZ	83,6
0806 10 10	BR	311,9
	EG	231,7
	PE	237,5
	TR	176,0
	ZZ	239,3
0808 10 80	CL	83,6
	MK	23,1
	NZ	123,7
	ZA	197,2
	ZZ	106,9
0808 30 90	BA	73,9
	TR	137,7
	XS	78,6
	ZZ	96,7

⁽¹⁾ Nomenclature of countries laid down by Commission Regulation (EU) No 1106/2012 of 27 November 2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics relating to external trade with non-member countries, as regards the update of the nomenclature of countries and territories (OJ L 328, 28.11.2012, p. 7). Code 'ZZ' stands for 'of other origin'.

DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1993

of 22 October 2015

approving the conclusion, by the European Commission, on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and of Kosovo (*), of the other part

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular the second paragraph of Article 101 thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) On 21 June 2013 the Council authorised the European Commission to open negotiations with Kosovo for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement ('the Agreement'). The negotiations were successfully concluded by the initialling of the Agreement on 25 July 2014.
- (2) The Agreement also covers matters falling under competences of the European Atomic Energy Community (the 'Community').
- (3) The Agreement should therefore also be concluded on behalf of the Community as regards matters falling under the Euratom Treaty.
- (4) The signing and conclusion of the Agreement is subject to a separate procedure as regards matters falling under the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (5) The Agreement is without prejudice to Member States' position on the status of Kosovo, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.
- (6) In addition, none of the terms, wording or definitions used in this Decision and the text of the Agreement, nor any recourse to the necessary legal base for the conclusion of the Agreement, constitute recognition of Kosovo by the Community as an independent State nor does it constitute recognition by individual Member States of Kosovo in that capacity where they have not taken such a step.
- (7) The conclusion by the Commission, acting on behalf of the Community, of the Agreement should therefore be approved as regards matters falling within the competence of the Community,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The conclusion by the Commission, on behalf of the Community, of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, and Kosovo is hereby approved ⁽¹⁾.

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

⁽¹⁾ The text of the Agreement is attached to the Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement.

Article 2

This Decision is without prejudice to Member States' and the Community's position on the status of Kosovo.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, 22 October 2015.

For the Council

The President

F. ETGEN

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2015/1994**of 26 October 2015**

on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Principality of Liechtenstein providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in Council Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 115 in conjunction with Article 218(5) and the second subparagraph of Article 218(8) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) On 14 May 2013 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the Principality of Liechtenstein to amend the Agreement between the European Community and the Principality of Liechtenstein providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in Council Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments ⁽¹⁾ (the 'Agreement'), in order to align it with recent developments at global level whereby it was agreed to promote the automatic exchange of information as an international standard.
- (2) The text of the Amending Protocol to the Agreement (the 'Amending Protocol'), which is the result of the negotiations, duly reflects the negotiating directives issued by the Council as it aligns the Agreement with the latest developments at international level concerning the automatic exchange of information, namely, with the Global Standard for automatic exchange of financial account information in tax matters developed by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The Union, the Member States and the Principality of Liechtenstein have actively participated in the work of the Global Forum of the OECD for supporting the development and implementation of that Standard. The text of the Agreement, as amended by the Amending Protocol, is the legal basis for implementing the Global Standard in the relations between the Union and the Principality of Liechtenstein.
- (3) The Amending Protocol should be signed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The signing on behalf of the Union of the Amending Protocol to the Agreement between the European Community and the Principality of Liechtenstein providing for measures equivalent to those laid down in Council Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments is hereby authorised, subject to the conclusion of the said Amending Protocol. ⁽²⁾

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Amending Protocol on behalf of the Union.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 379, 24.12.2004, p. 84.

⁽²⁾ The text of the amending Protocol will be published together with the decision on its conclusion.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, 26 October 2015.

For the Council
The President
C. DIESCHBOURG

CORRIGENDA

Corrigendum to Council Decision 2013/728/EU of 2 December 2013 establishing the position to be taken by the European Union within the Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization as regards an extension of the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions and the moratorium on non-violation and situation complaints

(Official Journal of the European Union L 332 of 11 December 2013)

On page 17, Article 1, indents:

for: ‘— TRIPS non-violation and situation complaints [...],
— e-commerce [...].’

read: ‘— TRIPS non-violation and situation complaints WT/MIN(13)/W/2,
— e-commerce WT/MIN(13)/W/3.’

