

# Procedure file

## Basic information

AVC - Assent procedure (historic) [1992/1035\(AVC\)](#)

Procedure completed

EEA Agreement: arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area EEA

Subject  
6.40.01 Relations with EEA/EFTA countries

## Key players

European Parliament

Council of the European Union

Council configuration

Meeting

Date

[General Affairs](#)

[1806](#)

28/11/1994

## Key events

26/11/1992	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(1992)0495	Summary
20/03/1994	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">05175/1994</a>	Summary
18/04/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
04/11/1994	Vote in committee		
03/11/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0058/1994</a>	
16/11/1994	Debate in Parliament		
17/11/1994	Decision by Parliament	T4-0122/1994	Summary
28/11/1994	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
28/11/1994	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/11/1994	Final act published in Official Journal		

## Technical information

Procedure reference	1992/1035(AVC)
Procedure type	AVC - Assent procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 238; Rules of Procedure EP 163; EC before Amsterdam E 228-p2/3-a2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

## Documentation gateway

Initial legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(1992)0495</a> <a href="#">OJ C 339 22.12.1992, p. 0011</a>	27/11/1992	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		<a href="#">COM(1993)0466</a> <a href="#">OJ C 290 27.10.1993, p. 0005</a>	05/10/1993	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		<a href="#">05175/1994</a>	21/03/1994	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A4-0058/1994</a> <a href="#">OJ C 341 05.12.1994, p. 0004</a>	04/11/1994	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T4-0122/1994</a> <a href="#">OJ C 341 05.12.1994, p. 0106-0125</a>	17/11/1994	EP	Summary

## Final act

[Regulation 1994/2894](#)  
[OJ L 305 30.11.1994, p. 0006](#) Summary

## EEA Agreement: arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area EEA

This proposal for a regulation sought to lay down certain arrangements for the implementation of the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA). These arrangements related to: - the procedure to be followed when a Member State or the Commission decided to apply the safeguard clauses envisaged by the EEA Agreement, - the rules to be applied in the field of competition, - the specific rules governing consultation of the Banking Advisory Committee and the Insurance Committee. Additional arrangements were set out to determine the procedure to be followed for the allocation of grants and interest rebates on loans to Member States benefiting from the financial mechanism established by the EEA Agreement. In this case, the Commission determined the share of each beneficiary region for a period of 5 years in the light of the region's level of economic development and population size. ?

## EEA Agreement: arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area EEA

In a supplementary working document the Commission provides a specific provision concerning the procedure to be followed in order to establish the Community position in the EEA Joint Committee in cases of a simple extension of the acquis to the EFTA countries. What is required is a relatively flexible procedure so as not to slow down the decision making procedure (thus modifying that currently provided for in the EEA Agreement) and not to weaken the Community's position in this committee. The procedure chosen thus seeks to grant the Commission a general mandate for all the cases where the Community's position is a request for a simple extension of the acquis to the EEA. It would thus be in a position to express the Community's position in these specific cases. In all other cases the procedure laid down by the Treaty should apply (e.g. EFTA participation in EC programmes in the area of flanking policies, dispute settlement, exceptional derogations from the acquis, etc.). A simplified procedure is also provided for the European Parliament which will be informed and its opinion requested on the 'EEA extension' of a Community act. Lastly, the modified proposal lays down the internal Community procedure for the adoption of the interim acquis package (i.e. all the acts relevant to the EEA published after the conclusion of the EEA Agreement and not yet contained in the EEA Agreement). ?

## EEA Agreement: arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area EEA

The Council's common position on this proposal for a regulation lays down the procedures for applying the provisions of the agreement on the EEA (with the exception of Switzerland, which has not ratified the agreement). This agreement sets up a joint EEA committee with decision-making powers in which the Community can express its position. The precise purpose of this common position is to lay down the procedural rules for deciding what position the Community will take in the committee. The procedure to be followed is determined in accordance with the following criteria: - as a general rule, the Community's position on Community regulations which are simply transposed by the EEA or which only need slight technical adjustment is decided by the Commission; - by way of exception, where changes imply more than just technical adjustment, the Community position is decided by the Council, once it has consulted Parliament. Decisions by the joint committee on possible changes to protocols or annexes to the EEA agreement will be subject, mutatis mutandis, to the same procedure as

that applied when the basic agreement was concluded. However, in practice, any amendments to the annexes to the agreement will be decided by the joint committee as soon as the Community has adopted new Community legislation, so that it can be implemented at the same time as the amendments in question (article 102 of the basic agreement).?

## EEA Agreement: arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area EEA

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In adopting the report by Mr KRISTOFFERSEN, the European Parliament approved the Council's common guidelines. ?

## EEA Agreement: arrangements for implementing the Agreement on the European Economic Area EEA

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OBJECTIVE: to establish, inter alia, the procedure to be followed in order to establish the Community position in the EEA Joint Committee in cases of a simple extension of the acquis to the EFTA countries. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation No 2894/94 concerning arrangements for implementing the EEA Agreement. SUBSTANCE: The decisions of the EEA Joint Committee are taken in agreement with the Community, of the one part, and the EFTA countries as a whole, of the other part. The procedure to be followed in order to establish the Community's position in the Committee is determined in accordance with the following criteria: . the Community's position with regard to the decisions of the EEA Joint Committee in cases of a simple extension of the Community acquis to the EEA with, where necessary, technical adjustments, is approved by the Commission, . the Community's position is approved in exceptional circumstances by the Council, after a simple consultation of Parliament, where the amendments do not involve technical adjustments. The Council thus acts with the majority provided for in the provision laid down as the legal base for the act, . with regard to decisions other than those concerning the extension of the acquis communautaire, the Community's position is approved by the Council acting with a majority, a qualified majority or unanimously depending on the type of decision to be taken. Finally, the Community's position concerning the extension of the so-called "interim" acquis (EC acquis adopted before 31 December 1993) is approved by the Council acting unanimously on a Commission proposal, after a simple consultation of the EP. The Community's position within the EEA Council is determined by the Council acting unanimously (unless it is called upon to deal with issues relating to Community acts). The Regulation also includes provisions concerning the implementing rules in the area of competition as well as the specific rules relating to the consultation of the Banking Advisory Committee and the Insurance Committee. Additional arrangements are also laid down with a view to determining the procedure to be followed in allocating interest rate and loan subsidies to beneficiary Member States from the financial mechanism provided for by the EEA Agreement. In this case, the Commission determines the proportion for each beneficiary region for a period of five years, mainly according to the level of economic development of the region in question and its population. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 December 1994. ?