

DECISION OF THE EFTA-JORDAN JOINT COMMITTEE

No. 1 of 2025

(Adopted on 10 June 2025 by written procedure)

AMENDING PROTOCOL B TO THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ICELAND, THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN, KINGDOM OF NORWAY
AND THE SWISS CONFEDERATION (THE EFTA STATES) AND THE
HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN (JORDAN) CONCERNING THE
DEFINITION OF THE CONCEPT OF “ORIGINATING PRODUCTS” AND
METHODS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

THE EFTA-JORDAN JOINT COMMITTEE,

Recalling the EFTA States and Jordan's (Parties) intention to participate actively in the process of economic integration in the Euro-Mediterranean region, and expressing their readiness to cooperate in seeking ways and means to strengthen this process;

Recalling that the pan-Euro-Mediterranean system of cumulation of origin established by the European Union, the EFTA States, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the State of Israel, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Lebanon, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Tunisia, the PLO for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Republic of Türkiye, and the Faroe Islands, consists of a network of Free Trade Agreements that set out identical rules of origin allowing for diagonal cumulation of origin among the member countries of the system;

Noting that the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin (the Convention) aims at replacing the protocols on rules of origin currently in force among the member countries of the pan-Euro-Mediterranean system of cumulation of origin;

Considering that the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro, the Republic of Serbia, the Republic of Kosovo, as well as the Republic of Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine are Contracting Parties to the Convention and that the pan-Euro-Mediterranean system is thus extended to these countries;

Noting that the Convention entered into force in relation to Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland on 1 January 2012, to Iceland on 1 May 2012 and to Jordan on 1 October 2013;

Acknowledging that the Contracting Parties to the Convention agreed on 7 December 2023 on the amendment of the Convention in order to provide for a new set of modernised and more flexible rules of origin, which entered into force on 1 January 2025;

Considering that the Convention shall not lead to any less favourable situation than previously under the Free Trade Agreement between the EFTA States and Jordan (“the Agreement”);

Having regard to Article 33 of the Agreement, empowering the Joint Committee to amend the Annexes and Protocols to the Agreement and in accordance with Article 10 of the Rules of Procedures of the Joint EFTA-Jordan Committee acting by written procedure and formalised by the Parties signatures,

DECIDES that:

1. The text of Protocol B to the Agreement, concerning the definition of the concept of “originating products” and methods of administrative cooperation and its Annexes shall be replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.
2. This Decision shall enter into force on the first day of the second month after the last Party has notified the Depositary of the completion of its internal requirements relating to it. This Decision shall only enter into force, before 1 January 2026, provided that all Parties have additionally informed the EFTA Secretariat through electronic means of the completion of their internal requirements relating to Decision No 2/2024¹.
3. The Secretary-General of the European Free Trade Association shall deposit the text of this Decision with the Depositary.

¹ The Decision of the Joint Committee of the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin of 12 December 2024 amending Decision No 1/2023 of the Joint Committee in order to include transitional provisions in the amendments of the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin applicable as of 1 January 2025.

DONE at Geneva, this 10th day of June in 2025, in one original in English.

For the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

For Iceland

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For the Principality of Liechtenstein

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For the Kingdom of Norway

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For the Swiss Confederation

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ANNEX TO DECISION NO. 1 OF 2025
OF THE EFTA-JORDAN JOINT COMMITTEE

**PROTOCOL B CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF THE CONCEPT OF
“ORIGINATING PRODUCTS” AND METHODS OF ADMINISTRATIVE
COOPERATION**

ARTICLE 1

Applicable Rules of Origin

1. For the purpose of implementing the Agreement, Appendix I and the relevant provisions of Appendix II to the Regional Convention on pan-Euro-Mediterranean preferential rules of origin (“the Convention”), as it may be subsequently amended, shall apply and are hereby incorporated into and made part of the Agreement, mutatis mutandis.
2. All references to the 'relevant agreement' in Appendix I and in the relevant provisions of Appendix II to the Convention shall be construed so as to mean the Agreement.

ARTICLE 2

Dispute Settlement

1. Article 31 of the Agreement shall apply with respect to the settlement of any disputes concerning the interpretation or application of Appendix I and the relevant provisions of Appendix II to the Convention, including their Annexes.
2. Settlement of all disputes between the importer and the customs authorities of the importing Party shall take place under the domestic legislation of that Party.

ARTICLE 3

Withdrawal from the Convention

1. Should one of the Parties give notice in writing to the depositary of the Convention of their intention to withdraw from the Convention according to Article 9 thereof, the Parties shall immediately enter into negotiations on rules of origin for the purpose of implementing the Agreement.
2. Until the entry into force of such newly negotiated rules of origin, the rules of origin contained in Appendix I and, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of

Appendix II to the Convention, applicable at the moment of withdrawal, shall continue to apply to the Agreement. However, as of the moment of withdrawal, the rules of origin contained in Appendix I and, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of Appendix II to the Convention shall be construed so as to allow bilateral cumulation only between the withdrawing Party and each of the other Parties.

ARTICLE 4

Electronically issued proofs of origin

1. Proofs of origin may be issued and/or submitted electronically.
2. The Parties shall accept movement certificates issued electronically when submitted at importation provided that:
 - (a) The movement certificates issued electronically have a similar form as the specimen described in the Convention;
 - (b) The customs authorities of the exporting Party provide for a secured online internet-based system to verify the authenticity of movement certificates issued electronically;
 - (c) The movement certificates issued electronically bear a unique serial number, and, if available, security features by which they can be identified; and
 - (d) The date from which a Party starts the issuance of electronic movement certificates is specified in the notices published in the Official Journal of the European Union (C series) and it is published in the Party according to its own procedure. The acceptance of the movement certificates issued electronically shall apply from the date indicated in those notices.
3. A Party may decide to suspend the acceptance of movement certificates issued electronically where the conditions listed under paragraph 2 are not fulfilled, and shall, in that case, inform the other Parties thereof in advance. In that case, notices as referred to under paragraph 2(d), shall indicate the starting date of the suspension.
4. For the purpose of administrative cooperation, the Parties may decide to assist each other through electronic means.
5. The Parties shall notify the European Commission of the entry into force of this Article. Notices indicating the application of this Article shall be published in an official publication in the Parties, in accordance with their own procedures.
6. The provisions of paragraphs 1 to 5 shall remain applicable until the Parties may agree to use a pan-Euro-Mediterranean digital environment for proofs of origin developed with the other Contracting Parties to the Convention that allows proofs of origin to be issued and/or submitted electronically.

ARTICLE 5

Sub-Committee on Customs and Origin Matters

1. The Parties shall maintain the Sub-Committee on Customs and Origin Matters ("Sub-Committee"), established by Joint Committee decision No. 2/2004.
 2. The functions of the Sub-Committee shall be to exchange information, review developments, prepare and co-ordinate positions on rules of origin and assist the Joint Committee regarding:
 - (a) rules of origin and administrative co-operation as set out in the Convention;
 - (b) other matters that are referred to the Sub-Committee by the Joint Committee.
 3. The Sub-Committee shall be chaired alternatively by a representative of an EFTA State or Jordan for an agreed period of time. The chairperson shall be elected at the first meeting of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee shall act by consensus.
 4. The Sub-Committee shall report to the Joint Committee. The Sub-Committee may make recommendations to the Joint Committee on matters related to its functions.
 5. The Sub-Committee shall meet as often as required. It may be convened by the Joint Committee or upon request of any Party. The venue shall alternate between Jordan and an EFTA State.
 6. A provisional agenda for each meeting shall be prepared by the chairperson in consultation with all Parties, and forwarded to the Parties, as a general rule, not later than two weeks before the meeting.
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