

DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE**No 119/2018****of 31 May 2018****amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms [2020/1621]**

THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area ('the EEA Agreement'), and in particular Articles 86 and 98 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement was extended by Joint Committee Decision No 208/2017 to include the participation of the EFTA States in the Union's preparatory action on defence research which is funded from the general budget of the Union.
- (2) The EFTA States shall continue to participate in Union activities related to budget line 02 04 77 03: 'Preparatory action on defence research', entered into the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2018.
- (3) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for that extended cooperation to continue from 1 January 2018,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In paragraph 13(a) of Article 1 of Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, the words 'financial year 2017' are replaced by the words 'financial years 2017 and 2018'.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following the last notification under Article 103(1) of the EEA Agreement (*).

It shall apply from 1 January 2018.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published in the EEA Section of, and in the EEA Supplement to, the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 31 May 2018.

For the EEA Joint Committee
The President
Claude MAERTEN

(*) No constitutional requirements indicated.