

**DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE****No 171/2018****of 6 July 2018****amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms [2021/232]**

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) It is appropriate to continue the cooperation of the Contracting Parties to the EEA Agreement in Union actions funded from the general budget of the Union regarding the operation and development of the internal market of goods and services and regarding internal market governance tools.
- (2) Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement should therefore be amended in order to allow for this extended cooperation to take place from 1 January 2018,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

Article 7 of Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement shall be amended as follows:

1. in paragraph 12, the words 'and 2017' are replaced by the words ', 2017 and 2018';
2. in paragraph 14, the words 'the financial year 2017' are replaced by the words 'the 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, 6 July 2018.

*For the EEA Joint Committee*  
*The President*  
Oda Helen SLETNES

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(\*) No constitutional requirements indicated.