

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

A-2003-PLO-D-001

24 June 2003

DECISION OF THE JOINT EFTA-PLO/PA COMMITTEE

No. 1 of 2003

(Adopted at the first meeting on 11 June 2003)

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE JOINT EFTA-PLO/PA COMMITTEE

THE JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to paragraph 4 of Article 28 of the Agreement between the EFTA States and the PLO for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority, adopts the following rules of procedure:

Article 1

The meetings of the Joint Committee shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) after consultations with the Parties to the Agreement.

Article 2

A Provisional Agenda for each meeting shall be prepared by the Secretary-General of EFTA after consultation with the Parties to the Agreement and sent to them, as a general rule, 14 days before the meeting. Any Party to the Agreement may propose the inclusion of any item related to the Agreement in the Agenda of the Joint Committee meeting.

Article 3

The Joint Committee shall meet whenever necessary. Each Party may request that a meeting be held.

Article 4

Unless the Joint Committee decides otherwise, the meetings shall not be public.

Article 5

Signatory Parties of the Agreement or States acceding to it which have not yet deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or accession or for whom the Agreement has not entered into force, may attend all meetings of the Joint Committee as observers without the right to take part in decisions.

Article 6

The Secretary-General of EFTA or his representative may attend all meetings of the Joint Committee.

Article 7

Meetings of the Joint Committee shall be chaired in turn by a representative of an EFTA State and by a representative of the PLO for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority.

Article 8

The working language of the Joint Committee is English.

Article 9

A summary record of the deliberations and of the decisions taken at each meeting shall be made and circulated to all representatives for approval in writing; it shall be approved at the latest eight weeks after the meeting. Decisions of the Joint Committee shall bear a number and a title referring to their subject matter.

Article 10

Where a matter is urgent and a meeting cannot be held, decisions of the Joint Committee may be taken by written procedure, if so agreed by the Parties to the Agreement. In such cases the proposed draft decisions shall be circulated by the Secretary-General of EFTA to the Parties to the Agreement.

Article 11

The Secretariat services for the Joint Committee and its sub-committees and working parties shall be provided by the EFTA Secretariat.

Article 12

Notifications to the Joint Committee in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement shall be made through the EFTA Secretariat.
