



Brussels, 29.7.2015  
COM(2015) 368 final

2015/0161 (NLE)

Proposal for a

## **COUNCIL DECISION**

**establishing the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Stabilisation and Association Council established by the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, concerning a Decision of the Stabilisation and Association Council adopting its rules of procedure**

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

The Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, has entered into force on 1 June 2015.

The Stabilisation and Association Council established by Article 115 of the said Agreement supervises the implementation of the Agreement and examines any major issues arising within its framework and any other bilateral or international issues of mutual interest.

As provided in Article 116 of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, the Stabilisation and Association Council shall establish its rules of procedure. In conformity with Article 118 of the Agreement, these rules of procedure determine the duties of the Stabilisation and Association Committee, which shall assist the Stabilisation and Association Council in the performance of its duties.

In accordance with Article 218 (9) of the TFEU, the position to be taken by the Union in the Stabilisation and Association Council concerning a Decision of the Stabilisation and Association Council adopting its rules of procedure shall be established by a decision of the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission.

The Council is therefore invited to adopt the attached proposal for a Decision on the European Union's position concerning a Decision of the Stabilisation and Association Council on its rules of procedure.

For the information of the Council, the draft rules of procedure of the relevant sub-Committees and special groups are provided in a separate document.

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 217 in conjunction with Article 218, paragraph 9 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 115 of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part (hereinafter referred to as "the SAA"), establishes a Stabilisation and Association Council.
- (2) Article 116 of the SAA provides that the Stabilisation and Association Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
- (3) Article 118 of the SAA provides that the Stabilisation and Association Council shall be assisted by a Stabilisation and Association Committee.
- (4) Article 118 of the SAA also provides that the Stabilisation and Association Council shall, in its rules of procedure, determine the duties of the Stabilisation and Association Committee and that the Stabilisation and Association Council may delegate any of its powers to the Stabilisation and Association Committee.
- (5) Article 120 of the said Agreement provides that the Stabilisation and Association Council may decide to set up other special committees or bodies that can assist it in carrying out its duties. It further provides that the Stabilisation and Association Council shall, in its rules of procedure, determine the composition and the duties of such committees and bodies and how they shall function,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Sole Article*

The position to be adopted by the European Union, within the Stabilisation and Association Council established by Article 115 of the SAA in relation to a Decision of this Stabilisation and Association Council adopting its rules of procedure, shall be based on the draft Decision of the Stabilisation and Association Council, annexed to this Decision.

Minor amendments to this draft Decision may be accepted without further decision by the Council.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council*