

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES

Ref. No: 1094894
Brussels, 3 December 2009

**Decision of the Standing Committee of the EFTA States
No 10/2009/SC
of 3 December 2009
establishing a Forum of Elected Representatives of Local and Regional Authorities
of the EEA EFTA States**

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES

Wishing to involve municipalities and regions of the EEA EFTA States in the EEA work and to facilitate regular consultations with the EU Committee of the Regions;

Whereas in Liechtenstein regions do not exist and its local authorities have a limited need for regular consultations; and

Having regard to Article 5(1) of the Standing Committee Agreement, which confers the right upon the Standing Committee to set up subcommittees and other bodies to assist it in accomplishing its tasks,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

A Forum of Elected Representatives of Local and Regional Authorities of the EEA EFTA States, hereinafter referred to as the Forum, is herewith established.

Article 2

The objective of the Forum is to involve elected representatives from local authorities and regions of the EEA EFTA States on matters within the scope of the European Economic Area.

Article 3

The members of the Forum shall be elected representatives from local or regional authorities in the EEA EFTA States. They shall be designated by the respective local or regional authorities of the EEA EFTA States. Up to six members, and/or alternate members, from each Member State may be present during any meeting of the Forum.

Article 4

The Forum shall elect its Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among its members. The modalities for these elections shall be decided by the Forum by consensus. The terms of office shall be for one year.

Article 5

The Forum shall meet at least once a year, normally in Brussels. The Chairman shall convene the meetings and circulate a provisional Agenda not less than four weeks in advance.

Article 6

The Forum shall decide on its Agenda. The members of the Forum shall be free to raise any matter within the scope of the work of the EEA, insofar as it is relevant for the local and regional authorities of the EFTA States.

Article 7

Representatives of the EEA EFTA States, the Secretary-General of EFTA and experts of the regional and local authorities of the EEA EFTA States may attend the meetings of the Forum and take part in its deliberations. All participants shall bear their own expenses. The expenses related to the holding of meetings and other activities shall be shared among the participating local and regional authorities.

Article 8

The secretariat services of the Forum shall be organised by the local or regional authority whose representative acts as Chairman. The EFTA Secretariat shall, within its existing resources, assist the authority holding the secretariat.

Article 9

Unless otherwise decided, the Forum shall meet in private.

Article 10

The working language of the Forum shall be English.

Done at Brussels, 3 December 2009

For the Standing Committee

The Chair
Ambassador Oda H. Sletnes

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The Secretary-General
K. Bryn

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