

(Acts adopted under Title V of the Treaty on European Union)

COUNCIL DECISION 2005/44/CFSP

of 20 December 2004

concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in the European Union military crisis management operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (operation ALTHEA)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 24 thereof,

The Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in the European Union military crisis management operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Operation ALTHEA) is hereby approved on behalf of the European Union.

Having regard to the recommendation from the Presidency,

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

Whereas:

Article 2

(1) On 12 July 2004, the Council adopted Joint Action 2004/570/CFSP on the European Union military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina⁽¹⁾.

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person empowered to sign the Agreement in order to bind the European Union.

Article 3

(2) Article 11(3) of that Joint Action provides that detailed arrangements regarding the participation of third states shall be the subject of an agreement in accordance with Article 24 of the Treaty on European Union.

This Decision shall take effect on the day of its adoption.

Article 4

(3) Following authorisation by the Council on 13 September 2004, the Presidency, assisted by the Secretary-General/High Representative, negotiated an Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the participation of the Swiss Confederation in the European Union military crisis management operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This Decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 20 December 2004.

(4) The Agreement should be approved,

For the Council

The President

P. VAN GEEL

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 252, 28.7.2004, p. 10.