

JHA
214

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

**DECISION No 4/2000 OF THE EU-SLOVAK ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
of 27 December 2000**

**amending, through the setting-up of a Joint Consultative Committee, Decision No 1/95 establishing
the rules of procedure of the Association Council**

(2001/136/EC)

THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Slovak Republic, of the other part, and in particular Article 109 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Dialogue and cooperation between economic and social interest groups in the European Community and the Slovak Republic can make a major contribution to the development of their relations
- (2) It seems appropriate that such cooperation be organised between the members of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities and the Slovak Republic's economic and social partners, by the setting up of a Joint Consultative Committee.
- (3) This means that the rules of procedure of the Association Council, adopted by Decision 1/95, have to be amended accordingly,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The following rules shall be added to the Rules of Procedure of the Association Council:

*Article 16***Joint Consultative Committee**

A Joint Consultative Committee is hereby established entrusted with the task of helping the Association Committee with a view to promoting dialogue and cooperation between the economic and social interest groups in the European Community and the Slovak

Republic. Such dialogue and cooperation shall encompass all economic and social aspects of relations between the European Community and the Slovak Republic, as they arise in the context of the implementation of the Europe Agreement. The Joint Consultative Committee shall express its views on questions arising in these areas.

Article 17

The Joint Consultative Committee shall comprise four representatives of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities and four representatives of the Slovak Republic's economic and social interest groups.

The Joint Consultative Committee shall carry out its tasks on the basis of consultation by the Association Council or, as regards the promotion of dialogue between economic and social circles, on its own initiative.

Members shall be chosen to ensure that the Joint Consultative Committee is as faithful a reflection as possible of the various economic and social interest groups in both the European Community and the Slovak Republic.

The Joint Consultative Committee shall be co-chaired by a member of the Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities and a Slovak member.

The Joint Consultative Committee shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article 18

The Economic and Social Committee of the European Communities, on the one hand, and the Slovak economic and social interest groups, on the other hand, shall each defray the expenses they incur by reason of their participation in the meetings for the Committee and of its working groups with regard to staff, travel and subsistence expenditure and to postal and telecommunications expenditure.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 February 2001.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission
