DECISION OF THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE

No 112/2004

of 9 July 2004

amending Annex XVIII (Health and safety at work, labour law, and equal treatment for men and women) to the EEA Agreement

THE EEA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, as amended by the Protocol adjusting the Agreement on the European Economic Area, hereinafter referred to as 'the Agreement', and in particular Article 98 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Annex XVIII to the Agreement was amended by the Agreement on the participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area signed on 14 October 2003 in Luxemburg [1].

(2) Directive 2002/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 amending Council Directive 76/207/EEC on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards access to employment, vocational training and promotion, and working conditions [2] is to be incorporated into the Agreement,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Annex XVIII to the Agreement shall be amended as follows:

1. The following shall be added in point 18 (Council Directive 76/207/EEC):

', as amended by:

— **32002 L 0073**: Directive 2002/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 (OJ L 269, 5.10.2002, p. 15).'

2. The adaptation in point 18 (Council Directive 76/207/EEC) shall be amended as follows:

(a) The present adaptation shall be numbered as (a).

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[1] OJ L 130, 29.4.2004, p. 3.

[2] OJ L 269, 5.10.2002, p. 15.

(b) The following adaptation shall be inserted after adaptation (a):

'(b) The words "within the meaning of Article 141(4) of the Treaty" in Article 2(8) shall be replaced with the following:

"with a view to ensuring full equality in practice between men and women in working life, the principle of equal treatment shall not prevent any Member State from maintaining or adopting measures providing for specific advantages in order to make it easier for the underrepresented sex to pursue a vocational activity or to prevent or compensate for disadvantages in professional careers,'"

Article 2

The texts of Directive 2002/73/EC in the Icelandic and Norwegian languages, to be published in the EEA Supplement to the *Official Journal of the European Union*, shall be authentic.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on 10 July 2004, provided that all the notifications under Article 103(1) of the Agreement have been made to the EEA Joint Committee (*).

Article 4

This Decision shall be published in the EEA Section of, and in the EEA Supplement to, the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 9 July 2004.

For the EEA Joint Committee

The President

KJARTAN JÓHANNSSON

(*) Constitutional requirements indicated.