

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article 23

By Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallén and Mr Sven-Olof Petersson, government representatives and Mr Sören Lekberg, Mr Kenneth Kvist and Mr Ingvar Svensson, national parliament representatives.

Status :
- **Member: Hjelm-Wallén and Lekberg**
- **Alternate: Petersson, Kvist and Svensson**

Article 23

By establishing a customs union between themselves Member States aim to contribute, in the common interest, **to increasing the Union's economic competitiveness¹**, to the harmonious development of world trade, the ~~progressive²~~ abolition of restrictions on international trade, **including the elimination of customs barriers**, and to foreign direct investment, ~~and the lowering of customs barriers.³~~

¹ Abolition of restrictions on international trade would increase the competitiveness of the EU. Competitiveness is a key objective of the Lisbon process.

² Unnecessary

³ Unnecessary, see suggested redistribution of the text