

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : III-223

Suggestion for protocol :

By Mr : Dick Roche

Status : - Member

Article III-223 (ex Article 34)

1. By way of derogation from [Article III-222 (ex 33)], the Council, acting unanimously on a recommendation from the European Central Bank or from the Commission, following consultation with the European Central Bank with a view to reaching a consensus compatible with the objective of price stability and after consultation with the European Parliament in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 3 for the arrangements there referred to, may conclude formal agreements on a system of exchange rates for the euro in relation to non-Union currencies. The Council may, acting by a qualified majority on a recommendation from the European Central Bank or the Commission and after consulting the European Central Bank in an endeavour to reach a consensus consistent with the objective of price stability, adopt, adjust or abandon the central rates of the euro within the exchange-rate system. The President of the Council shall inform the European Parliament of the adoption, adjustment or abandonment of the central rates of the euro.
2. In the absence of an exchange-rate system in relation to one or more third-country currencies as referred to in paragraph 1, the Council, acting either on a recommendation from the Commission and after consulting the European Central Bank or on a recommendation from the European Central Bank, may formulate general orientations for exchange-rate policy in relation to these currencies. These general orientations shall be without prejudice to the primary objective of the European System of Central Banks, to maintain price stability.
3. By way of derogation from [Article III-222 (ex 33)], where ~~agreements on matters relating to the monetary or exchange-rate system~~ **agreements concerning monetary or foreign-exchange regime matters** are to be the subject of negotiations between the Union and one or more States or international organisations, the Council shall, acting on a recommendation from the Commission and after consulting the European Central Bank, decide the arrangements for the negotiation and for the conclusion of the agreements. These arrangements shall ensure that the Union expresses a single position. The Commission shall be fully associated with the negotiations.
4. Without prejudice to Union competence and agreements as regards economic and monetary union, Member States may negotiate in international bodies and conclude international agreements.

Explanation (if any) : The amendment reflects the text of the existing Article 111. There is a danger that the replacement of the word “regime” with “system” could unintentionally broaden the scope of the Article.