Conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council: extract concerning the accession of new Member States to the European Union (11 and 12 December 1992)

Caption: At the end of the Edinburgh European Council, held on 11 and 12 December 1992, the Twelve adopt a series of measures relating to the opening of accession negotiations between Austria, Sweden, Finland and Norway and the European Union.

Source: European Council - Presidency Conclusions (Edinburgh, 11-12 December 1992), SN 456/92 Part A. Brussels: Council of the European Communities, December 1992.

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URL:
http://www.cvce.eu/obj/conclusions_of_the_edinburgh_european_council_extract_concerning_the_accession_of_new_member_states_to_the_european_union_11_and_12_december_1992-en-2a7db9a9-44f6-42b5-84b5-c7c695839b2b.html

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Edinburgh European Council (11 and 12 December 1992)
Presidency Conclusions

[...]

Accession of new Member States to the Union

8. The European Council in Lisbon agreed that official negotiations with EFTA countries seeking membership of the Union will be opened immediately after the Treaty on European Union is ratified and the agreement has been achieved on the Delors II package.

Given the agreement reached on future financing and the prospects for early ratification of the Treaty on European Union by all Member States, the European Council agreed that enlargement negotiations will start with Austria, Sweden and Finland at the beginning of 1993. These negotiations will be based on the general negotiation framework of which the General Affairs Council took note on 7 December. They will be transformed into negotiations under Article 0 of the Treaty on European Union once it enters into force, and can only be concluded once the Treaty on European Union has been ratified by all Member States. The conditions of admission will be based on the acceptance in full of the Treaty on European Union and the "acquis", subject to possible transitional measures to be agreed in the negotiations. The European Council invited the Council of Ministers to take decisions on the opening of negotiations on the same basis with Norway as soon as the Commission's opinion on its application is available. Negotiations will to the extent possible be conducted in parallel.

It invited the Commission, in preparing its Opinion on the Swiss application, to take into account the views of the Swiss authorities following the 6 December referendum on the EEA agreement. It welcomes the contacts now under way with the EFTA countries to identify the next steps in proceeding with the agreement.