

COUNCIL DECISION

of 20 November 2006

extending to the non-participating Member States the application of Decision 2006/849/EC amending and extending Decision 2001/923/EC establishing an exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting (the Pericles programme)

(2006/850/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 308 thereof,

Article 1

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

The application of Decision 2006/849/EC shall be extended to Member States other than the participating Member States as defined in the first indent of Article 1 of Council Regulation (EC) No 974/1998.

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

Article 2

(1) When adopting Decision 2006/849/EC ⁽¹⁾ the Council indicated that it should apply in the participating Member States as defined in the first indent of Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 974/98 of 3 May 1998 on the introduction of the euro ⁽²⁾.

This Decision shall take effect on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

(2) However, the exchange of information and staff and the assistance and training measures implemented under the Pericles programme should be uniform throughout the Community and the requisite steps should therefore be taken to guarantee the same level of protection for the euro in the Member States where the euro is not the official currency,

Done at Brussels, 20 November 2006.

For the Council
The President
J. KORKEAOJA

⁽¹⁾ See page 28 of this Official Journal.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 139, 11.5.1998, p. 1.