



ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA)
Rue Belliard 35
B-1040 Brussels
Belgium

Your ref

Our ref

Date

17/1351

25 October 2017

Request for further extension of deadline - RO regarding the market for taxi services in Oslo (the Authority's Decision no. 041/17/COL)

Reference is made to the Reasoned Opinion of 22 February 2017 from the EFTA Surveillance Authority (The Authority) concerning certain provisions governing access of transport operators to the market for taxi services, and their compliance with Article 31 (1) of the EEA Agreement. Further reference is made to the letter of 28 June 2017 from the Authority extending the deadline to reply to the Reasoned Opinion until 27 October 2017.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications (the Ministry) is currently considering the Norwegian taxi legislation in light of the Authority's Reasoned Opinion. The objective of the ongoing considerations is to ensure a satisfactory transport service throughout the country and to ensure the safety of passengers and taxi drivers. The Ministry is currently assessing different solutions and is in the process of discussing the solutions with other relevant Ministries. We are in the final stages of concluding on these assessments, but we still need some more time to allow for political discussions, and thereafter prepare a proposal for the government to consider.

The Ministry expects that it will be possible for the Government to make a decision regarding the taxi legislation in such time that it enables the Ministry to answer the Authority by the end of 2017.

With this in mind, we kindly ask for a further extension of the deadline to reply to the Reasoned Opinion until 20 December 2017.

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Any amendments in the taxi legislation must be prepared and processed in an ordinary legislative procedure. The proposal has to be submitted for a ministerial consultation and then on a public consultation. After the consultation process, any proposal for amendments in the Transport Act must be submitted to the Parliament.

Yours sincerely

Anne-Lise Junge Jensen
Deputy Director General

Carina Jacobsen
Adviser

This document is signed electronically and has therefore no handwritten signature