

Agreement on the European Economic Area

PART III

FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS, SERVICES AND CAPITAL

CHAPTER 6

TRANSPORT

Article 51

1 The imposition, in respect of transport operations carried out within the territory of the Contracting Parties, of rates and conditions involving any element of support or protection in the interest of one or more particular undertakings or industries, shall be prohibited unless authorized by the competent authority referred to in Article 50(2).

2 The competent authority shall, acting on its own initiative or on application by an EC Member State or an EFTA State, examine the rates and conditions referred to in paragraph 1, taking account in particular of the requirements of an appropriate regional economic policy, the needs of underdeveloped areas and the problems of areas seriously affected by political circumstances, on the one hand, and of the effects of such rates and conditions on competition between the different modes of transport, on the other.

The competent authority shall take the necessary decisions within the framework of its internal rules.

3 The prohibition provided for in paragraph 1 shall not apply to tariffs fixed to meet competition.