

Brussels, 16 December 2016 (OR. en)

16288/06 DCL 1

RECH 350 ISR 6

DECLASSIFICATION

of document:	ST 16288/06 RESTREINT UE
dated:	7 December 2006
new status:	Public
Subject:	Adoption of a Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate the renewal of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and the State of Israel

Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.

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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 7 December 2006

16288/06

RESTREINT UE

RECH 350 ISR 6

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion prop.: 14324/06 RECH 268 ISR 5 RESTREINT UE

Subject: Adoption of a Council Decision authorising the Commission to negotiate the renewal of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and the State of Israel

- 1. On 3.10.2006 <u>the Commission</u> submitted to the Council its recommendation for the above-mentioned decision. The Commission's recommendation is based on Articles 170 and 300 of the Treaty establishing the European Community having regard to Article 5 (5) of the Agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and the State of Israel¹.
- 2. <u>The Research Working Party</u> has reached agreement on the text of the decision authorising the Commission to negotiate the agreement (Annex I), as well as on the negotiating directives (Annex II).

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O.J. L 154, 21.6.2003, p. 80.

3. It is suggested, therefore, that <u>the Permanent Representatives Committee</u> recommends the <u>Council</u>, at one of its future sessions, to adopt as an "A" item this Decision and the negotiating directives as annexed to this note.



ANNEX I

COUNCIL DECISION

authorising the Commission to negotiate the renewal of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and the State of Israel

- 1. The Council authorises the Commission to negotiate the renewal of the agreement for scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and the State of Israel.
- 2. The Commission will conduct the negotiations with the assistance of the special committee created for this purpose in accordance with Article 300, paragraph 1, of the Treaty establishing the European Community.
- 3. The Council calls on the Commission to conduct these negotiations on the basis of the negotiating directives in the Annex.
- 4. The Commission will keep the Council informed of the state of progress of the negotiations.

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ANNEX II

NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVES

For renewing the Agreement for scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and the State of Israel

The aim of the negotiations is to renew under mutually agreed conditions the above-mentioned Agreement for the duration of the Seventh Framework Programme (EC - 2007-2013)¹, and this in accordance with the procedure foreseen under Article 5, paragraph 5 of the Agreement.

The terms and conditions of the present Agreement will be adapted to the rules applicable to the Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities, once it is adopted. It would be appropriate to foresee the provisional application of the renewed agreement so as to allow Israeli entities to participate in the first calls under the Seventh Framework Programmes.

The renewed agreement should provide for adequate protection of the financial interests of the European Communities covering the communication of financial data, audits and administrative anti-fraud investigations on the spot, administrative assistance and the recovery of money. Insofar as necessary, the renewed agreement should also envisage elimination of obstacles in relation to taxation and social security resulting from the cross border participation of researchers in research projects under the agreement, in particular for the personnel of the Joint Research Centre governed by the EC staff regulations.

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COM (2005) 119 final: "Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the seventh framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007 to 2013)."