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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

AGREEMENT
FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO
SETTING OUT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO
IN THE PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA (PRIMA)

EU/MA/en 1

EU/MA/en 2

THE EUROPEAN UNION, hereinafter referred to as "the Union",

of the one part,

and

THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO, hereinafter referred to as "Morocco",

of the other part,

hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

WHEREAS the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part¹, which entered into force on 1 March 2000, provides for scientific, technical and technological cooperation;

WHEREAS the Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the European Community and the Kingdom of Morocco, which entered into force on 14 March 2015, establishes a formal framework for cooperation of the Parties in scientific and technological research;

¹ OJEU L 70, 18.3.2000, p. 2.

WHEREAS the process leading to the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area ("PRIMA") started in 2012 with the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation in Barcelona, where participants agreed to launch a renewed partnership in research and innovation based on the principles of co-ownership, mutual interest and shared benefit;

WHEREAS Morocco has been playing an active role in this process and by letter of 26 September 2014 formally expressed its financial commitment to PRIMA;

WHEREAS in December 2014 the proposal for a "PRIMA Joint Programme" was submitted to the European Commission by a number of Member States of the Union and third countries, Morocco among them;

WHEREAS Decision (EU) 2017/1324 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ regulates the terms and conditions for the participation of the Member States of the Union and third countries associated with Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) ("Horizon 2020") which are Participating States of the initiative, in particular their financial obligations and participation in the governing structures of the initiative;

¹ Decision (EU) 2017/1324 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2017 on the participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) jointly undertaken by several Member States (OJEU L 185, 18.7.2017, p. 1).

WHEREAS, in accordance with Decision (EU) 2017/1324, Morocco is to become a Participating State in PRIMA, subject to the conclusion of an international agreement for scientific and technological cooperation with the Union setting out the terms and conditions for its participation in PRIMA;

WHEREAS Morocco expressed its wish to join PRIMA as a Participating State and on an equal footing with the Member States of the Union and third countries associated with Horizon 2020 that participate in PRIMA;

WHEREAS an international agreement between the Union and Morocco is needed to regulate the rights and obligations of Morocco as a Participating State in PRIMA,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

The purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to set out the terms and conditions for the participation of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area ("PRIMA").

ARTICLE 2

Terms and conditions for the participation of Morocco in PRIMA

The terms and conditions for the participation of Morocco in PRIMA shall be those set out in Decision (EU) 2017/1324. The Parties shall comply with the obligations established by Decision (EU) 2017/1324 and take appropriate measures, in particular by providing all necessary assistance in order to ensure the application of Article 10(2) and Article 11(3) and (4) of that Decision. The detailed arrangements for assistance shall be agreed between the Parties, such arrangements being essential to their cooperation under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3

Territorial application

The territorial application of this Agreement shall be that established in the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part.

ARTICLE 4

Signature and provisional application

This Agreement shall be applied provisionally from the date of its signing.

ARTICLE 5

Entry into force and duration

1. This Agreement shall be approved by the Parties in accordance with their own procedures.
2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which both Parties have notified each other through diplomatic channels that the procedures referred to in paragraph 1 have been completed.

3. This Agreement shall remain in force for as long as Decision (EU) 2017/1324 is in force, unless terminated by either Party in accordance with Article 6.

ARTICLE 6

Termination

1. Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time by means of a written notice informing the other Party of its intention to terminate it.

The termination shall take effect six months after the date on which the written notice reaches its addressee.

2. Projects and activities in progress at the time of termination of this Agreement shall continue until their completion under the conditions laid down in this Agreement.

3. Parties shall settle by common consent any other consequences of termination.

ARTICLE 7

Dispute settlement

The dispute-settlement procedure provided for in Article 86 of the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part shall apply to all disputes related to the application or interpretation of this Agreement.

This Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish and Arabic languages, each text being equally authentic.