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European Union

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Subject: Adoption of a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an amendment of the agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and Australia

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

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

10380/98

RESTREINT

RECH 95
AUS 2

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat of the Council

to : Committee of Permanent Representatives/Council

no. Cion. prop.: 9287/98 RECH 70 AUS 1 - SEC (98) 893 final

Subject : Adoption of a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an amendment of the agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and Australia

1. The Commission submitted to the Council on 3 June 1998 the abovementioned recommendation for a Council Decision authorizing the negotiation of an amendment of the agreement for scientific and technological cooperation with Australia.

The envisaged amendment of the existing cooperation agreement ⁽¹⁾ aims at widening the scope of this agreement to all research areas falling under the specific programmes of the first activity and to certain areas of the fourth activity of the Community RTD Framework Programme.

The amendment of the agreement, as proposed by the Commission, should be negotiated on the basis of the draft negotiating directives and subsequently concluded in accordance with Article 130m under the procedure laid down in Article 228 of the Treaty establishing the European Community.

2. After examination of the proposal, the Research Working Party reached an agreement on the texts of the draft Council Decision together with the negotiating directives as reproduced in Annex to this Note.

(1) See OJ L 188 of 22.7.94, pages 17-25.

3. It is therefore suggested that the Committee of Permanent Representatives recommend to the Council to adopt, as an "A" item at one of its next meetings, the attached Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an amendment of the scientific and technological cooperation agreement with Australia, together with the negotiating directives.

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COUNCIL DECISION
AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE AN
AMENDMENT OF THE AGREEMENT FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
AND AUSTRALIA

1. The Council authorizes the Commission to negotiate an amendment of the agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and Australia.
 2. The Commission shall conduct the negotiations with the assistance of the special Committee set up for this task in accordance with Article 228 of the EC Treaty.
 3. The Council invites the Commission to conduct these negotiations in accordance with the attached negotiating directives.
 4. The Commission will keep the Council informed of the state of progress of the negotiations.
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NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVES

**for amending the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation
between the European Community and Australia**

Objective

1. The aim of the negotiations is to amend the above-mentioned cooperation agreement only as far as the areas for cooperation, mentioned under Article 4 of the Agreement, are concerned, and this in accordance with the procedure for possible amendment foreseen under Article 12 (b) of the Agreement. It is the intention to widen the application of the Agreement to all research areas covered by Article 130g (a) ("first activity") and by Article 130g (d) ("fourth activity"), the latter only as far as networks between infrastructures operators and related research projects are concerned.
2. To this end the present wording of Article 4 of the Agreement would be replaced by a new text reflecting the above-mentioned objective.

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