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RECH 455
COASI 114

'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
No. Cion doc.:	9566/22 + ADD 1
Subject:	Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations with New Zealand for an Agreement on the general principles for the participation of New Zealand in Union programmes and on the association of New Zealand to Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027) - Adoption

1. On 30 May 2022, the Commission submitted to the Council a recommendation for a Council decision authorising the opening of negotiations with New Zealand for an agreement on the general principles for the participation of New Zealand in Union programmes and on the association of New Zealand to Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation 2021-2027¹.
2. The decision will allow the Commission to open negotiations with New Zealand on its participation to Union programmes and in particular to Horizon Europe.
3. The Research Working Party met once to examine the text.

¹ 9566/22 + ADD 1

4. The draft decision specifies that the role of the special committee, which the Commission has to consult during the negotiations with New Zealand in accordance with Article 218(4) TFEU, should be exercised by both the Asia-Oceania Working Party for matters related to the general conditions for the participation of New Zealand in any Union programmes and the Research Working Party for matters related to the specific conditions for the participation of New Zealand to the Horizon Europe programme.
5. For this reason, the Commission presented its proposal to the Asia-Oceania Working Party.
6. The Committee of Permanent Representatives provided further guidance², authorising the negotiations for an agreement covering both the conditions for participation of New Zealand in any Union programme and the conditions for its participation in Horizon Europe, the latter conditions being included in the form of a protocol to the main agreement.
7. The Committee of Permanent Representatives recommended in particular that for future agreements on the participation of third countries in Union programmes, the inclusion of the protocol on the association of third countries to Horizon Europe is exceptional and should not create any precedent. This position should be set out in a statement by the Council.
8. The Research Working Party agreed on the text following written consultation that was concluded on 19 July 2022.
9. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend that the Council, in part "A" of the agenda of a forthcoming meeting, adopts the Council decision authorising the opening of negotiations with New Zealand for an agreement on the general principles for the participation of New Zealand in Union programmes and on the association of New Zealand to Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation 2021-2027, as revised by the lawyer-linguists and set out in document 11439/22, the negotiating directives as set out in document ST 11439/22 ADD 1, and the statement by the Council as set out in document ST 11553/22 ADD 1.

² 11030/22

10. The European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU and the Decision and the negotiating directives will be transmitted to the EP.
 11. The Council decision will be published in the Official Journal in accordance with Article 17(2)(b) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.
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