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RECH 65
MED 11
AGRI 69
MIGR 70
RL 4

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	17097/24 + ADD 1 17098/24 + ADD 1
Subject:	<p>COUNCIL DECISION on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the agreement, in the form of an Exchange of Letters, amending and supplementing the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon, setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Republic of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)</p> <p>- Adoption</p> <p>COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the agreement, in the form of an Exchange of Letters, amending and supplementing the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon, setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Republic of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)</p> <p>- Agreement in principle</p> <p>- Request by the Council for the consent of the European Parliament</p>

1. On 19 December 2024, the Commission submitted to the Council the two above-mentioned proposals¹. The proposals aim to conclude an Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Lebanon, in the form of an Exchange of Letters, to amend and supplement the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of the Republic of Lebanon in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).
2. The text of the Agreement was initialled on 22 July 2024, following the Council's authorisation to the Commission on 9 November 2023 to open negotiations with the Republic of Lebanon.
3. On 27 January 2025, the Commission presented the proposals to the Research Working Party.
4. The Research Working Party agreed on the proposals following a written consultation that was concluded on 4 February 2025.
5. 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:
 - a) adopts the Council decision approving the signing of this Agreement, in the form of an Exchange of Letters, as revised by the lawyer-linguists and set out in document ST 5943/25 for the Council decision and as set out in document ST 5949/25 for the Agreement.
 - b) decides to agree in principle on the Council decision on the conclusion and the Agreement, in the form of an Exchange of Letters, as revised by the lawyer-linguists and set out in document ST 5948/25 for the Council decision and as set out in document ST 5949/25 for the Agreement, and to forward the Council decision on the conclusion and the Agreement to the European Parliament for its consent.
6. The Council decisions will be published in the Official Journal in accordance with Article 17(2)(b) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

¹ 17097/24 + ADD 1 and 17098/24 + ADD 1