

Brussels, 10 June 2026  
(OR. en)

9565/26

RECH 241  
ASIE 20

**'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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No. Cion doc.: 8827/26 + ADD 1

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations with India for an agreement on the participation of India in Union programmes and on its association to Pillar II of Horizon Europe  
- Adoption

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1. On 4 May 2026, the Commission submitted to the Council a recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for an agreement between the Union and the Republic of India on the participation of the Republic of India in Union programmes and the association of the Republic of India to Pillar II of Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027)<sup>1</sup>.
2. The decision will allow the Commission to open negotiations with the Republic of India on its participation to Union programmes and in particular to Pillar II of Horizon Europe.
3. The Research Working Party agreed on the text following written consultation that was concluded on 13 May 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> 8827/26 + ADD 1

4. The draft decision specifies that the role of the special committee, which the Commission has to consult during the negotiations with the Republic of India in accordance with Article 218(4) TFEU, should be exercised by the Asia-Oceania Working Party as regards matters related to the general conditions for the participation of the Republic of India in any Union programmes and the Research Working Party as regards matters related to the specific conditions for the participation of the Republic of India to Pillar II of the Horizon Europe programme.
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, adopts the Council Decision opening of negotiations for an agreement between the Union and the Republic of India on the participation of the Republic of India in Union programmes and the association of the Republic of India to Pillar II of Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2021-2027), as revised by the lawyer-linguists and set out in document 9373/26 and the negotiating directives as set out in document 9373/26 ADD 1.
6. The European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU. The Decision and the negotiating directives will be transmitted to the European Parliament.
7. The Council decision will be published in the Official Journal in accordance with Article 17(2)(b) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.