






Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	2018/0036(NLE)	Procedure completed
EU/Morocco Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: participation of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)		
Subject 3.50.20 Scientific and technological cooperation and agreements		
Geographical area Morocco		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Industry, Research and Energy	 PATRICIELLO Aldo	30/05/2018
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 TOIA Patrizia	
		 TELIČKA Pavel	
		 LÓPEZ BERMEJO Paloma	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3646	06/11/2018
European Commission	Commission DG Research and Innovation	Commissioner MOEDAS Carlos	

Key events			
13/03/2018	Legislative proposal published	06534/2018	Summary
19/04/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		
03/09/2018	Vote in committee, 1st reading/single reading		
07/09/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0281/2018	Summary
02/10/2018	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0360/2018	Summary
06/11/2018	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

06/11/2018	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/03/2019	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2018/0036(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 186-p2; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a
Modified legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 150
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/8/12295

Documentation gateway

Document attached to the procedure	COM(2018)0072	19/02/2018	EC	
Legislative proposal	06534/2018	13/03/2018	CSL	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	06533/2018	13/03/2018	CSL	
Document attached to the procedure	07599/2018	03/04/2018	CSL	
Committee draft report	PE623.734	21/06/2018	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee	PE625.418	12/07/2018	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0281/2018	07/09/2018	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0360/2018	02/10/2018	EP	Summary

Final act

Decision 2019/528
OJ L 088 29.03.2019, p. 0001

2018/0036(NLE) - 19/02/2018 Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to enable Morocco to participate in the partnership for research and innovation in the Mediterranean area (PRIMA).

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: [Decision \(EU\) 2017/1324](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council provides for the participation of the Union in the partnership for research and innovation in the Mediterranean area (PRIMA).

PRIMA aims at implementing a joint programme to foster research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for improving the efficiency, safety, security and sustainability of agro-food systems and of integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area.

PRIMA will be jointly undertaken by a number of Member States and third countries ('PRIMA Participating States) with a high level of commitment to scientific, management and financial integration and under the same terms and conditions.

Morocco expressed its wish to join PRIMA as a Participating State committing to provide a total financial contribution of EUR 40 million to the initiative.

The negotiations started on 26 June 2017 and were successfully completed on 22 January 2018, when the Chief Negotiators of the future Parties initialled the text of the draft Agreement.

In order to ensure that Morocco participates in PRIMA on an equal footing with Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020, an International Agreement with the Union is required to extend the scope of the legal regime established by Decision (EU) 2017/1324 to Morocco.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council concludes the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of Morocco in the partnership for research and innovation in the Mediterranean area (PRIMA) on behalf of the Union.

The present initiative will allow Morocco to become a Participating State in PRIMA, and thus engaged on an equal footing with Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020. Moroccan legal entities would be automatically eligible to apply for EU funding in projects funded from the EU budget.

In order to ensure the protection of Union financial interests, particularly the powers of the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office, the Court of Auditors and the PRIMA Implementation Structure (PRIMA-IS) to carry out audits and investigations, the Agreement to be concluded between the EU and Morocco obliges the Parties to provide all necessary assistance to ensure their implementation and to agree on the detailed arrangements for assistance.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATION: the impact on expenditure is estimated at EUR 69 000 for the period 2018-2020.

2018/0036(NLE) - 13/03/2018 Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to allow Morocco to participate in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: 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 the participation of Morocco in PRIMA.

Morocco expressed its wish to join PRIMA as a Participating State and on an equal footing with the Member States and third countries associated to Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) participating in PRIMA.

The Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Morocco laying down the terms and conditions for Morocco's participation in PRIMA was signed subject to its conclusion at a later date. The Agreement must now be approved.

CONTENT: the draft Council Decision seeks the approval, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the European Union and Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for the participation of this country in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

As a reminder, PRIMA aims to implement a joint programme to foster research and innovation capacities and to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for improving the efficiency, safety, security and sustainability of agro-food systems and of integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area.

2018/0036(NLE) - 07/09/2018 Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the report by Aldo PATRICIELLO (EPP, IT) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the 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).

The committee recommended that the European Parliament give its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

As a reminder, the Mediterranean Research and Innovation Partnership (PRIMA) is a public-public partnership that brings together the research capacities of the Union and the participating Mediterranean countries to facilitate the development and implementation of innovative and integrated solutions to make agri-food and water management and supply systems in the Mediterranean area more efficient, secure and sustainable.

Currently, 19 countries are jointly implementing PRIMA: 11 Member States of the European Union, three countries associated with the Horizon 2020 programme and five third countries with which the Union must conclude international agreements on scientific and technological cooperation. The agreement with Morocco was negotiated in this context.

2018/0036(NLE) - 02/10/2018 Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 566 votes to 64, with 17 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the 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).

Following the recommendation of its Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

As a reminder, PRIMA's strategic objective is to foster research and innovation capacities and develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for improving the efficiency, safety, security and sustainability of agro-food systems and of integrated water provision and management in the Mediterranean area.