Council of the European Union

Brussels, 26 September 2022
(OR. en)

12066/22
ADD 1

Interinstitutional File:
2022/0239 (NLE)

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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject:	Draft DECISION OF THE EU-MONGOLIA JOINT COMMITTEE establishing a specialised working group on development cooperation and adopting its terms of reference

DRAFT

DECISION No .../...
OF THE EU-MONGOLIA JOINT COMMITTEE

of …

establishing a specialised working group on development cooperation and adopting its terms of reference

THE EU-MONGOLIA JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part, and in particular Article 56(4) thereof,

Having regard to Article 10(1) and (2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Committee,

Whereas:

(1) In order to assist the Joint Committee established by the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Mongolia, of the other part (the 'Agreement') in the performance of its tasks and to allow for expert level discussions on the key areas falling within the scope of the Agreement, a specialised working group on development cooperation (the 'development cooperation working group') should be established.

(2) Pursuant to Article 8(3) of its Rules of Procedure, the Joint Committee is able to adopt its decisions by written procedure, if the circumstances so require.

(3) This Decision should be adopted in order for the development cooperation working group to become operational in a timely manner,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The specialised working group on development cooperation (the ‘development cooperation working group’) is hereby established.

2. The terms of reference of the development cooperation working group, as set out in the Annex, are hereby adopted.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at ...,

For the EU-Mongolia Joint Committee
The Chair

ANNEX

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SPECIALISED WORKING GROUP ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION ESTABLISHED UNDER THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES, OF THE ONE PART, AND MONGOLIA, OF THE OTHER PART

Article 1

Composition, chair and objective

1. The specialised working group on development cooperation (the 'development cooperation working group') shall be composed of representatives of the Union and of Mongolia at an appropriate level and shall be co-chaired by a representative of the European Commission service in charge and by a representative of the Mongolian service in charge (the 'co-chairs').

2. The objective of the development cooperation working group is to review and discuss the EU-Mongolia development cooperation portfolio, in particular relevant developments in projects and programmes as well as sectoral issues and policies linked to priority areas of the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for Mongolia.

Article 2

Meetings

1. The development cooperation working group shall meet annually, preferably before the meeting of the Joint Committee. Meetings shall be held in Mongolia, unless mutually agreed otherwise by the Parties, on a date fixed by mutual agreement. Additional meetings of the development cooperation working group may be held at the request of either Party, if the other Party so agrees.

2. Meetings of the development cooperation working group may be held by means of video-conference, if both Parties so agree.

Article 3

Delegations

1. The Parties shall inform each other of the intended composition of their respective delegations before each meeting of the development cooperation working group.

2. In agreement with the Parties, the co-chairs may invite experts or representatives of other bodies to the meetings to act as observers or to provide information on a particular subject. The Parties shall agree on the terms and conditions under which such experts or representatives of other bodies may attend the meetings.

Article 4

Information to the public

1. The meetings of the development cooperation working group shall not be public, unless otherwise agreed by the co-chairs. Where a Party submits information designated as confidential to the development cooperation working group, the other Party shall treat that information as confidential.

2. The development cooperation working group may issue statements and reports to the public as it deems appropriate.

Article 5

Secretariat

A representative of the European Commission service in charge and a representative of the Mongolian service in charge shall act jointly as secretaries of the development cooperation working group.

Article 6

Agendas for meetings

1. The draft agenda for meetings of the development cooperation working group shall be jointly discussed and agreed by the two Parties at least three weeks before the date of each meeting.

2. The final version of the agenda shall be approved by the co-chairs at the beginning of each meeting.

Article 7

Minutes

1. The conclusions of the meetings of the development cooperation working group shall be agreed by the co-chairs. In the event that no conclusions can be reached, the divergence shall be reported to the Joint Committee.

2. The co-chairs or their representatives shall present the main conclusions to the Joint Committee.

3. The secretaries shall jointly draw up draft minutes, preferably at the end of the meeting and at the latest 30 calendar days after the date of the meeting.

4. Once agreed by both Parties, the minutes shall be approved by written procedure.

Article 8

Decisions

1. In accordance with Article 10(3) of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Committee, the development cooperation working group shall have decision-making powers as a specialised working group. It shall report to the Joint Committee on its activities after each meeting, and may make recommendations to the Joint Committee.

2. Decisions shall be entitled 'Decision of the development cooperation working group …' followed by a serial number, the date of its adoption and a description of the subject matter. Each decision shall state the date on which it enters into force.

3. Where circumstances so require, the development cooperation working group may adopt its decisions by written procedure.

4. Decisions of the development cooperation working group shall be established in two authentic copies, each signed by the co-chairs.

5. The Parties may publish the decisions of the development cooperation working group in their respective official journals.

Article 9

Expenses

1. Each Party shall bear the expenses it incurs in relation to its participation in the meetings of the development cooperation working group with regard to staff, travel and subsistence expenditure and to postal and telecommunications expenditure. Each Party shall bear the expenses it incurs in connection with interpretation at meetings and translation.

2. The Party hosting the meeting shall bear the expenses in connection with the organisation of meetings and reproduction of documents.

Article 10

Amendment of the terms of reference

The terms of reference of the development cooperation working group may be amended by common agreement of the Parties. In accordance with Article 10(2) of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Committee, the Joint Committee may also amend those terms of reference.