



Council of the
European Union

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5584/24

LIMITE

MAMA 17
MED 6
EG 6
ECOFIN 81
COMER 15
GLOBAL GATEWAY 2
MIGR 27

'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
Subject:	Draft Joint Declaration on the Strategic Partnership between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the European Union - Authorisation to sign an NBI - Decision to use the written procedure

1. On 29 December 2023, the Commission presented to the Mashreq/Maghreb Working Party (MaMa) the draft Joint Declaration on the Strategic Partnership between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the European Union (WK 8/2024 INIT). The draft Joint Declaration is a step towards elevating the EU-Egypt relationship to the level of comprehensive and strategic partnership, with a particular focus on political relations, macroeconomic stability, investment and trade, including energy, water, food security and climate change, migration, security and human capital development.

2. MaMa examined the draft Joint Declaration (WK 8/2024 INIT) at its meeting on 8 January 2024, during which delegations provided comments on the draft text.
 3. On 18 January 2024, the Permanent Representatives Committee discussed the Strategic Partnership between Egypt and the Union. During that meeting, it was clarified that the draft Joint Declaration constitutes a non-binding instrument.
 4. On 24 January 2024, the Commission presented to MaMa a revised version of the draft Joint Declaration (WK 8/2024 REV1), seeking the endorsement of the Council as part of the procedure for non-binding instruments. Further to additional comments, a subsequently two revised versions were presented to MaMa on 26 January 2024 (WK 8/2024 REV2 and WK 8/2024 REV3).
 5. On 30 January 2024, MaMa agreed, for its part, the draft Joint Declaration as set out in document 5582/24.
 6. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to:
 - confirm its agreement on the draft Joint Declaration as set out in doc. 5582/24, subject to possible small amendments to the text as a result of the negotiations with Egypt but without changes in substance.
 - to decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, that, in view of the urgency of the matter, the Council uses the written procedure for the authorisation of the signing by the Commission, on behalf of the European Union, of the Joint Declaration.
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