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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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

No. Cion doc.: 6318/18 - COM(2018) 72 final
6321/18 - COM(2018) 74 final

Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

- *Adoption*

Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA)

- *Request by the Council for the consent of the European Parliament*

1. On 19 February 2018, the Commission submitted to the Council the two above-mentioned proposals. The proposals concern the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco setting out the terms and conditions for participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

2. The text of the Agreement was initialled on 22 January 2018, following the Council's authorisation to the Commission on 30 May 2017 to negotiate on behalf of the European Union an international agreement between the Union and the Kingdom of Morocco laying down the terms and conditions for participation of the Kingdom of Morocco in PRIMA.
3. Following its meeting on 26 February 2018, the Joint Research/Atomic Questions Working Party has reached agreement on the texts of the Proposals. **UK entered a parliamentary scrutiny reservation.**
4. It is suggested, therefore, that the Permanent Representatives Committee recommend that the Council, at a forthcoming session:
 - a) adopt, as an "A" item, the Decision approving the signing of this Agreement and its provisional application. The texts of the Decision and the Agreement, following finalisation by the legal linguists, are set out in documents 6532/18 and 6533/18, respectively.
 - b) decide to forward the draft Decision on the conclusion as set out in doc. 6534/18 (as finalised by the legal linguists) as well as the text of the above-mentioned Agreement (as set out in doc. 6533/18) to the European Parliament for its consent.
