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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Proposal for a Council Decision

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the EU-Republic of Moldova Association Council as regards the establishment of the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova of the other part, and on the endorsement of the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

The Association Council

Brussels, XXX 2025

EU-MD XXXX/25

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: Draft DECISION OF THE EU-REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ASSOCIATION COUNCIL as regards the establishment of the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova of the other part, and on the endorsement of the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova

DECISION No X/2025

OF THE EU-REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

of … [date]

as regards the establishment of the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova of the other part, and the endorsement of the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova

THE EU-REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ASSOCIATION COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part ('the Agreement'), and in particular Article 436 in conjunction with Article 439 thereof,

RECOGNISING that Public Administration Reform (PAR) is a fundamental pillar of the enlargement process, and strengthening capacities of the public institutions will be crucial for the Republic of Moldova to advance on its EU integration path, and that dialogue and cooperation between local authorities in the European Union and those in the Republic of Moldova may provide an integral contribution to the development of their relations and to the integration of the Republic of Moldova into the Union,

ACKNOWLEDGING that the establishment of an annual PAR Sub-Committee represents an important step forward in strengthening EU and the Republic of Moldova relations and enhancing policy dialogue in this crucial area, and that the endorsement of the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) between the European Committee of the Regions and the elected local authorities of the Republic of Moldova would strengthen direct dialogue between them,

NOTING that the PAR Sub-Committee will serve as a platform for strategic policy dialogue and will facilitate discussions and coordination on key reforms in the area of public administration and that it will play a central role in monitoring of the PAR roadmap implementation and providing guidance to ensure alignment with European standards and best practices; and that the JCC would serve as a platform to share the EU best practices on local and regional governance and matters linked to the implementation of the Association Agreement at the territorial level, thus providing a consistent and a stable form of cooperation with the Moldovan local authorities and allowing them to have an active role by co-leading the JCC and co-shaping its agenda, and issuing recommendations.

Whereas:

(1) Pursuant to Article 436 of the Agreement, the Association Council has the power to take decisions for the purpose of attaining the objectives of the Agreement.

(2) Pursuant to Article 439 (2) of the Agreement, the Association Council may decide to set up any special committee or body in specific areas necessary for the implementation of this Agreement, and shall determine the composition, duties and functioning of such bodies.

(3) In order to allow for expert level discussions on the key areas falling within the scope of the application of the Agreement, the PAR Sub-Committee and the JCC should be established.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee

1. The Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee is hereby established.
2. The Rules of Procedure of the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee shall be governed and applied *mutatis mutandis* in accordance with Article 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Association Committee set out in Annex II to Decision No 1/2014 of 16 December 2014 of the EU-Republic of Moldova Association Council.
3. The scope of the established Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee may, upon mutual agreement of the Parties, be amended or otherwise modified.

Article 2

Joint Consultative Committee

1. The establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova, comprised by an equal number of representatives of the Committee of the Regions, on the one hand, and elected representatives of local authorities of the Republic of Moldova, on the other hand, is hereby endorsed.
2. The Joint Consultative Committee with the Republic of Moldova shall, on its own initiative, carry out its activities with a view to promoting dialogue and fostering cooperation between local authorities.
3. The Joint Consultative Committee with the Republic of Moldova shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.
4. The Joint Consultative Committee with the Republic of Moldova may submit recommendations to the Association Council.
5. Expenditure related to meetings of the Joint Consultative Committee with the Republic of Moldova, including organizational arrangement, participation of their delegates and support staff, as well as, travel and subsistence expenses, shall be borne by the European Committee of the Regions and by the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

Article 3

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

Done at …,

For the Association Council

The Chair