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COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2025/2486

of 1 December 2025

authorising the opening of negotiations with the Federal Republic of Nigeria for an agreement on cooperation in science and technology

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 186, in conjunction with Article 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) Negotiations should be opened with a view to concluding an agreement on cooperation in science and technology (the 'agreement') with the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

(2) The Exchange of Letters between the representatives of the Union and the Federal Republic of Nigeria, of 6 June 2024 and 26 June 2024, confirmed the desire of both parties to open negotiations for such an agreement.

(3) The proposed agreement would provide an important framework for facilitating cooperation between the Union and the Federal Republic of Nigeria in science and technology, across joint priority areas, thus leading to mutual benefits. It is therefore in the Union's interest to launch negotiations for an agreement on cooperation in science and technology with the Federal Republic of Nigeria,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Commission is hereby authorised to open negotiations for an agreement on cooperation in science and technology with the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Article 2

The Commission is hereby nominated as the Union negotiator.

Article 3

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the Working Party on Research and in accordance with the negotiating directives set out in the Addendum to this Decision.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the European Commission.

Done at Brussels, 1 December 2025.

For the Council

The President

K. KALLAS