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*Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety*

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**2016/0325(COD)**

10.3.2017

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council  
on the participation of the European Union in a Partnership for Research and  
Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) jointly undertaken by several  
Member States

(COM(2016)0662 – C8-0421/2016 – 2016/0325(COD))

Rapporteur: Francesc Gambús

PA\_Legam

## **SHORT JUSTIFICATION**

Water management, and the attendant task of ensuring food security, is a challenge that the European Union needs to address. Water poverty, defined as ‘the condition of not having access to sufficient water, or water of an adequate quality, to meet one’s basic needs,’ affects, according to the European Commission, some 180 million people in the Mediterranean region, something that harms the health and stability of the populations on both sides. The EU therefore needs to promote the PRIMA initiative and begin its implementation as soon as possible.

Pressures on water resources have grown in many areas and river basins, as a result of both demand from populations and an increase in irrigated areas, threatening some small-scale local economies and conservation areas.

This is why a holistic approach should be taken in deploying PRIMA, to ensure the efficiency of irrigated areas, crop cultivations and urban pipelines and protect natural areas, wetlands and conservation, in accordance with both with European legislation in general and the Water Framework Directive in particular.

As part of the PRIMA initiative, dialogue between the north and south shores of the Mediterranean can be used as a way to mitigate the impact of climate change and to address parallel challenges, such as desertification. To this end, the involvement of the Union for the Mediterranean, which already has a wealth of experience, should be stressed, both in developing and managing the management of the partnership.

Nevertheless, a few aspects of the decision establishing PRIMA need to be altered to ensure best possible governance and better and more efficient use of funding allocated for research and development projects under the programme, as well as to pave the way for economic growth and the creation of decent jobs in the Mediterranean countries, which have been hardest hit by the economic crisis, and suffer high levels of unemployment, particularly among young people.

The debate in plenary in Strasbourg on 15 December 2014 removed any doubts as to the importance of EU involvement in PRIMA, given the economic boost and added value it would bring. It also stressed the significance of water resources in developing countries and the need for projects to impart the necessary know-how to ensure the proper use of renewable energies in water infrastructure, water pumping equipment for instance, to develop more sustainable crops.

Ensuring food security and water resources is also one of the EU’s obligations, and should be a key element of neighbourhood policy so as to ensure, among other objectives, the stability of, and development in, its neighbouring countries. And the partnership forged at the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Research and Innovation in Barcelona in April 2012 may be a pillar on which to build it.

## **AMENDMENTS**

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee

on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

## Amendment 1

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) Public-public partnerships ***should*** aim to develop closer synergies, increase coordination and avoid unnecessary duplication with Union, international, national and regional research programmes, and should fully respect the Horizon 2020 general principles, in particular those relating to openness and transparency.

*Amendment*

(3) Public-public partnerships ***must*** aim to develop closer synergies, increase coordination and avoid unnecessary duplication ***and fragmentation*** with Union, international, national and regional research programmes, and should fully respect the Horizon 2020 general principles, in particular those relating to openness and transparency. ***A good, timely dissemination of comprehensive information together with the transparency of results and of the financial management are crucial for the success of PRIMA.***

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 4 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(4a) Full implementation of the human right to water and sanitation, as recognised by the United Nations and supported by the Member States, is essential for life, and the proper management of water resources plays a vital role in guaranteeing sustainable water use and safeguarding the world's natural resources.***

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a decision

## Recital 5

### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 acknowledges that international cooperation with third countries is necessary to address effectively common challenges. International cooperation in research and innovation is a key aspect of the Union's global commitments and has an important role to play in the Union's partnership with neighbourhood countries. This cooperation follows the approach taken in the European neighbourhood policy to differentiate the level of cooperation with each country in the neighbourhood based on their commitment towards the Union.

### *Amendment*

(5) Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 acknowledges that international cooperation with third countries is necessary to address effectively common challenges. International cooperation in research, ***science*** and innovation is a key aspect of the Union's global commitments and has an important role to play in the Union's partnership with neighbourhood countries. This cooperation follows the approach taken in the European neighbourhood policy to differentiate the level of cooperation with each country in the neighbourhood based on their commitment towards the Union.

## Amendment 4

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 8

### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) PRIMA aims at implementing a joint programme for the development and the adoption of innovative and integrated solutions for improving the efficiency, safety, security and sustainability of ***food*** production and water provision in the Mediterranean area. PRIMA ***should*** contribute to the achievement of the recently agreed Sustainable Development Goals and to the forthcoming European Sustainable Development Strategy.

### *Amendment*

(8) ***The lack of clean water and nutritious food has adverse effects on the health and stability of the populations, and*** PRIMA aims at implementing a joint programme for the development and the adoption of innovative ***multi-dimensional*** and integrated ***common*** solutions for improving the efficiency, safety, security and sustainability of ***agri-food*** production and water provision, ***treatment and reuse*** in the Mediterranean area ***based on principles of co-ownership, mutual interest and shared benefit. Taking into account that access to water and sanitation constitutes a fundamental human right and since securing food and water availability is of paramount importance in the region, PRIMA must*** contribute to the achievement of the recently agreed Sustainable Development Goals and to the forthcoming European

Sustainable Development Strategy, *as well as to contribute to the goals of the Paris Agreement.*

## **Amendment 5**

### **Proposal for a decision Recital 8 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(8a) Sustainable water provision and food production in the Mediterranean require the protection of natural freshwater ecosystems, a shift to more efficient consumption patterns and the integration of renewable energy sources. Open, democratic and participatory governance of water provision is essential to ensure cost-efficiency and benefit to the whole society.*

## **Amendment 6**

### **Proposal for a decision Recital 8 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(8b) The sustainable protection of natural areas such as freshwater ecosystems is key for the development and decisive to provide drinking water supplies.*

## **Amendment 7**

### **Proposal for a decision Recital 8 c (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(8c) The water scarcity in the Mediterranean area requires a different energy solutions and the introduction of more efficient patterns. Renewable energy*

*should be integrated in the processes to replace fossil fuels.*

## **Amendment 8**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Recital 8 d (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(8d) The importance of open, democratic and participatory governance is crucial to ensure that the most cost-effective solutions regarding water resources management are taken for the benefit of the whole society.**

## **Amendment 9**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Recital 10**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(10) In line with the objectives of Horizon 2020, any other Member State and third country associated to Horizon 2020 should be entitled to participate in PRIMA if it commits to contribute to the financing of PRIMA.

(10) In line with the objectives of Horizon 2020, any other Member State and third country associated to Horizon 2020 should be entitled to participate in PRIMA if it commits to contribute to the financing of PRIMA **with an adequate percentage of the total effort.**

## **Amendment 10**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Recital 11 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(11a) The PRIMA partnership should cover the whole chain from research to innovation, mobilising universities, research and technology institutions, industry, and innovation-driven SMEs.**

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 16

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(16) PRIMA activities should be in line with the objectives and research and innovation priorities of Horizon 2020 and with the general principles and conditions laid down in Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013. PRIMA should take into account the OECD definitions regarding Technological Readiness Level in the classification of technological research, product development and demonstration activities.

*Amendment*

(16) PRIMA activities should be in line with the objectives and research and innovation priorities of Horizon 2020 and with the general principles and conditions laid down in Article 26 of Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013. PRIMA should take into account the OECD definitions regarding Technological Readiness Level in the classification of technological research, product development and demonstration activities, ***as well as addressing low to high technology readiness levels, including forms of ‘curiosity-driven’ and ‘practice-based’ research.***

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 18

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) Calls for proposals managed by the PRIMA-IS should also be published on the single portal for participants, as well as through other Horizon 2020 electronic means of dissemination managed by the Commission.

*Amendment*

(18) Calls for proposals managed by the PRIMA-IS should also be published on the single portal for participants ***in the PRIMA-IS***, as well as through other Horizon 2020 electronic means of dissemination managed by the Commission.

## Amendment 13

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 27

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(27) Upon request from the Commission, the PRIMA-IS and the Participating States should submit any

*Amendment*

(27) Upon request from the Commission, the PRIMA-IS and the Participating States should submit any



information the Commission needs to include in the reports on the evaluation of PRIMA.

information the Commission needs to include in the reports on the evaluation of PRIMA. ***At the same time, such information should be transferred to the competent committees of the Parliament.***

## Amendment 14

### Proposal for a decision Recital 28

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(28) The objective of this Decision is to strengthen the integration and alignment of research and innovation systems and activities in the Mediterranean countries in the fields of water provision and **food** systems. The scale of the research and innovation necessary to address the challenges in the Mediterranean area is immense due to the systemic character of the major bottlenecks. The scope of research and innovation is complex, multidisciplinary and requires a multi-actor and cross-border approach. A collaborative approach with a wide set of Participating States can help to increase the required scale and scope, by pooling financial and intellectual resources. Since the objective can therefore be better achieved at Union level by integrating national efforts into a consistent Union approach, by bringing together compartmentalised national research programmes, by helping design common research and funding strategies across national borders, and by achieving the critical mass of actors and investments required, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.

#### *Amendment*

(28) The objective of this Decision is to strengthen the integration and alignment of research and innovation systems and activities in the Mediterranean countries in the fields of water provision, ***its treatment, reuse, and sustainable use, and agri-food*** systems. The scale of the research and innovation necessary to address the challenges in the Mediterranean area is immense due to the systemic character of the major bottlenecks. ***Meanwhile, relevant results should be able to serve as a model in other, drought-hit areas of the Union.*** The scope of research and innovation is complex, multidisciplinary and requires a multi-actor and cross-border approach. A collaborative approach with a wide set of Participating States can help to increase the required scale and scope, by pooling financial and intellectual resources. Since the objective can therefore be better achieved at Union level by integrating national efforts into a consistent Union approach, by bringing together compartmentalised national research programmes, by helping design common research and funding strategies across national borders, and by achieving the critical mass of actors and investments required, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Decision does not

go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 1 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 2

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

If the country complies with the requirements set out in ***the first subparagraph***, it shall be regarded as a Participating State for the purposes of this Decision.

##### *Amendment*

If the country complies with the requirements set out in ***this paragraph***, it shall be regarded as a Participating State for the purposes of this Decision.

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The general objective of PRIMA is to ***develop the fully piloted and demonstrated*** common innovative solutions for water ***provision*** and food systems in the Mediterranean region, to ***make them more*** climate ***resilient, efficient, cost-effective and sustainable***, and to contribute to solving nutrition, health, well-being and migration problems upstream.

##### *Amendment*

1. The general objective of PRIMA is to ***create social and economic development on both sides of the Mediterranean Sea by building research and development capacities and develop*** common innovative ***agri-food and water-management*** solutions for water, ***including treatment and reuse***, and food systems in the Mediterranean region, to ***increase the efficiency, also by reducing losses and waste***, climate ***resiliency and sustainability of food productions and water provision*** and to contribute to solving ***water-scarcity, food-security***, nutrition, health, well-being, ***environmental*** and migration problems upstream.

## Amendment 17

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point i**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(i) the formulation of a ***stable***, long-term, common strategic agenda in the area of ***water provision and food*** systems;

*Amendment*

(i) the formulation of a long-term, ***sustainable***, common strategic agenda ***in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and with the European Sustainable Development Strategy in order to safeguards natural resources***, in the area of ***the management, production and supply of water, including treatment and reuse, and in the area of agri-food products***;

**Amendment 18**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point i a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(ia) ***the growth of innovative and sustainable solutions in agriculture, food production and water provision, encouraging application by communities, enterprises and citizens; the sustainable management of water for arid and semi-arid areas; the sustainable farming systems under Mediterranean environmental constraints to maintain natural resources***;

**Amendment 19**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point ii**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(ii) the orientation of ***all*** national R&I programmes towards the implementation of the strategic agenda;

*Amendment*

(ii) the orientation of ***relevant*** national R&I programmes towards the implementation of the strategic agenda, ***and the coordination of those programmes***;

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point iii

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(iii) the **structural** involvement of all relevant public and private sector actors in implementing the strategic agenda by pooling knowledge and financial resources to achieve the necessary critical mass;

##### *Amendment*

(iii) the involvement of all relevant public and private sector actors in implementing the strategic agenda by pooling knowledge and financial resources to achieve the necessary critical mass;

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point iv

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(iv) the strengthening of funding and of the implementation capabilities of all actors involved.

##### *Amendment*

(iv) the strengthening of funding and of the implementation capabilities of all actors involved ***including SMEs, academia, NGOs and local research centres.***

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) the commitment by each Participating State to contribute to the financing of PRIMA;

##### *Amendment*

(c) the commitment by each Participating State to contribute to the financing of PRIMA ***with an adequate percentage of the total effort;***

## Amendment 23

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point e

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(e) the establishment of *a* governance model for PRIMA in accordance with Article 12;

*Amendment*

(e) the establishment of *an efficient* governance model for PRIMA in accordance with Article 12;

**Amendment 24**

**Proposal for a decision  
Article 4 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The Commission shall assess the fulfilment of commitments undertaken by the Participating States, in particular through the first two PRIMA annual work plans. Following that assessment the maximum Union contribution referred to in Article 3(1) *shall* be reviewed in accordance with Article 9.

*Amendment*

3. The Commission shall assess the fulfilment of commitments undertaken by the Participating States, in particular through the first two PRIMA annual work plans. Following that assessment the maximum Union contribution referred to in Article 3(1) *may* be reviewed in accordance with Article 9.

**Amendment 25**

**Proposal for a decision  
Article 5 – paragraph 2 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) where appropriate, financial contributions to the PRIMA-IS in view of funding indirect actions referred to in Article 6(1)(a);

*Amendment*

(a) where appropriate, financial *or in kind* contributions to the PRIMA-IS in view of funding indirect actions referred to in Article 6(1)(a);

**Amendment 26**

**Proposal for a decision  
Article 5 – paragraph 2 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) financial or in kind contributions in implementing activities referred to in

*Amendment*

(b) financial or in kind contributions in implementing activities referred to in

Article 6(1)(b); and

Article 6(1)(a) **and** (b); and

## **Amendment 27**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 5 – paragraph 2 – point c**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) financial contributions to the administrative budget of the PRIMA-IS not covered by the Union contribution as set out in Article 3(3)(b).

##### *Amendment*

(c) financial **or in kind** contributions to the administrative budget of the PRIMA-IS not covered by the Union contribution as set out in Article 3(3)(b).

## **Amendment 28**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 5 – paragraph 3**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

3. In-kind contributions referred to in point (b) of paragraph 2 of this Article shall consist of costs incurred by the Participating States through their national funding bodies in implementing activities referred to in Article 6(1)(b), less any direct or indirect Union financial contribution to those costs.

##### *Amendment*

3. In-kind contributions referred to in point (b) of paragraph 2 of this Article shall consist of costs incurred by the Participating States through their national funding bodies in implementing activities referred to in Article 6 **or pertaining to the administrative budget of the PRIMA-IS**, less any direct or indirect Union financial contribution to those costs.

## **Amendment 29**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 5 – paragraph 5**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

5. Contributions referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 2 counting as contributions from Participating States shall be made after the entry into force of this Decision for the activities included in

##### *Amendment*

5. Contributions referred to in points (a) and (b) of paragraph 2 counting as contributions from Participating States shall be made after the entry into force of this Decision for the activities included in

the first PRIMA annual work plan, and ***after adoption*** of the subsequent annual work plans by the PRIMA-IS.

the first PRIMA annual work plan, and ***during the annual time frame (1 January-31 December)*** of the subsequent annual work plans by the PRIMA-IS.

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. PRIMA shall support ***the following activities***:

*Amendment*

1. PRIMA shall support ***the following activities funded by the participating Member States, via their national funding bodies***:

## Amendment 31

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point a – point i

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(i) research and innovation actions, as well as innovation actions, including demonstrators, pilot plants, testing, pre-commercial deployment, addressing ***in particular the higher*** Technology Readiness Levels;

*Amendment*

(i) research and innovation actions, as well as innovation actions, including demonstrators, pilot plants, testing, pre-commercial deployment, addressing ***low to high*** Technology Readiness Levels;

Amendment 32

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point b – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) activities funded by the Participating States ***through their national funding bodies*** without Union contribution, addressing ***increasingly also the higher*** Technology Readiness Levels ***and consisting in***:

*Amendment*

(b) activities funded by the Participating States, without Union contribution, addressing ***low to high*** Technology Readiness Levels.

## Amendment 33

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 1 – point b – point ii

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(ii) activities under the national programmes of the Participating States.

*Amendment*

(ii) activities under the national programmes of the Participating States, ***including research programmes for a strategic management of water resources and a long-term mitigation and adaptation plans, in order to incorporate a more coherent and climate resilient water approach.***

## Amendment 34

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. The activities shall include research and innovation actions, as well as innovation actions, including innovative demonstrators, pilot plants, testing, pre-commercial deployment, addressing in particular the higher technology readiness levels, by means of small and medium-sized projects, in terms of budget and number of participants.***

***They shall also include coordination and support actions focusing on dissemination and outreach to promote PRIMA and maximise its impacts;***

## Amendment 35

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 2



*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. PRIMA shall be implemented on the basis of annual work plans, to be adopted by the PRIMA-IS, after obtaining approval by the Commission, by the end of the previous year. As an exception, the PRIMA annual work plan for 2018 *may* be *adopted* by 31 March 2018. The PRIMA-IS shall make the annual work plan publicly available.

*Amendment*

2. PRIMA shall be implemented on the basis of annual work plans, to be adopted by the PRIMA-IS, after obtaining approval by the Commission. ***The PRIMA-IS shall forward these plans to the Commission*** by the end of the previous year. As an exception, the PRIMA annual work plan for 2018 *must* be *sent* by 31 March 2018. The PRIMA-IS shall make the annual work plan publicly available.

**Amendment 36**

**Proposal for a decision  
Article 6 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. Activities to be funded by the Participating States through their national funding bodies without Union contribution may only be included in the PRIMA annual work plan following *the positive outcome of their* external independent *evaluation by international* peer review *with regard to the objectives of PRIMA, as organised by the PRIMA-IS*.

*Amendment*

5. Activities to be funded by the Participating States through their national funding bodies without Union contribution may only be included in the PRIMA annual work plan following *a positive assessment by the PRIMA-IS of their contribution with regard to the objectives of PRIMA; in the event of doubt, the PRIMA-IS may request an* external independent peer review.

**Amendment 37**

**Proposal for a decision  
Article 6 – paragraph 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

6. Activities included in the PRIMA annual work plan *that are funded by the Participating States through their national funding bodies without Union contribution* shall be implemented in

*Amendment*

6. Activities included in the PRIMA annual work plan shall be implemented in compliance with common principles to be adopted by the PRIMA-IS, after obtaining approval by the Commission. The common

compliance with common principles to be adopted by the PRIMA-IS, after obtaining approval by the Commission. The common principles shall take into account the principles set out in this Decision, in Title VI of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, in particular the principles of equal treatment, transparency, independent peer review evaluation and selection. The PRIMA-IS shall also adopt, after obtaining approval by the Commission, the reporting requirements of the Participating States to the PRIMA-IS, including with regard to indicators inserted into each of those activities.

principles shall take into account *the balance between the interests of the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean and* the principles set out in this Decision, in Title VI of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, in particular the principles of equal treatment, transparency, independent peer review evaluation and selection. The PRIMA-IS shall also adopt, after obtaining approval by the Commission, the reporting requirements of the Participating States to the PRIMA-IS, including with regard to indicators inserted into each of those activities.

## Amendment 38

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 7 – point b

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) The proposals shall be selected following transnational calls for proposals ***and through a two-step procedure. Step 1 shall consist of a review at national or transnational level of proposals submitted by legal entities eligible for funding under the relevant national programmes. Step 2 shall consist of a single independent international peer review organised by the PRIMA-IS. Under step 2, the proposals shall be evaluated with the assistance of at least three independent experts, on the basis of the following award criteria: excellence, impact, quality and efficiency of the implementation.***

##### *Amendment*

(b) The proposals shall be selected following transnational calls for proposals. ***The proposals shall be evaluated with the assistance of at least three independent experts, on the basis of the following selection and award criteria: a fair balance between small and larger projects, relevance, scientific and technological excellence, impact, scientific quality (of management and partners) and efficiency of the implementation.***

## Amendment 39

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 7 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) Proposals shall be ranked according to the evaluation results. The selection shall be made by the PRIMA-IS on the basis of this ranking. The Participating States shall agree on an adequate **funding** mode that allows maximising the number of proposals to be funded on the basis of this ranking, in particular by providing reserve amounts to the national contributions for calls for proposals.

*Amendment*

(c) Proposals shall be ranked according to the evaluation results. The selection shall be made by the PRIMA-IS on the basis of this ranking. The Participating States shall agree on an adequate **selection** mode that allows maximising the number of proposals to be funded on the basis of this ranking, in particular by providing reserve amounts to the national contributions for calls for proposals. ***In the event that one or more projects cannot be financed owing to a lack of budgetary resources, the following projects may be selected;***

**Amendment 40**  
**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 7 – point c a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ca) Activities shall fulfil sustainability criteria adopted by the PRIMA-IS, after obtaining approval by the Commission, to ensure that activities do not have negative environmental, social or public health impacts.***

**Amendment 41**

**Proposal for a decision**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 2 – introductory part**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. By way of derogation from point (b) of Article 9(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, the minimum number of participants shall be three legal entities established in three different Participating States of which:

*Amendment*

2. By way of derogation from point (b) of Article 9(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013, the minimum number of participants shall be three legal entities established in three different ***countries considered to be*** Participating States ***in accordance with this decision, before the***

*submission deadline under the relevant call for proposals, of which:*

## **Amendment 42**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 7 – paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4a. Notwithstanding the above provisions, calls for PRIMA proposals may be open to entities established in a Member State of the Union for the Mediterranean or in a country associated to Horizon 2020, provided that cofinancing to the tune of at least 50% is provided by its country or national funding body. In this event, these bodies shall be eligible for Union funding.**

## **Amendment 43**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 11 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

5. In implementing PRIMA, the Participating States shall take the legislative, regulatory, administrative and other measures necessary for protecting the Union's financial interests, in particular, to ensure full recovery of any amounts due to the Union in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

5. In implementing PRIMA, the Participating States shall take the legislative, regulatory, administrative and other measures necessary for protecting the Union's financial interests, in particular, to ensure full recovery of any amounts due to the Union in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. **No more than EUR 200 million may be recovered in this manner. Each Participating State shall be liable only for the amount of funds received by entities established on their territory and for no more than its total contribution to the PRIMA**

*programme. Participating State shall not be liable for funding received by any entity established in countries not participating in PRIMA.*

#### Amendment 44

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 12 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The bodies of the PRIMA-IS shall include:

*Amendment*

1. The bodies of the PRIMA-IS *specifically geared to efficiency* shall include:

#### Amendment 45

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 12 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) the *Management* Board;

*Amendment*

(b) the *Governing* Board;

#### Amendment 46

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The PRIMA-IS shall be governed by the *General Assembly*, in which all Participating States are represented. The *General Assembly* shall be the decision-making body of PRIMA-IS.

*Amendment*

The PRIMA-IS shall be governed by the *Steering Committee*, in which all Participating States are represented. The *Steering Committee* shall be the decision-making body of PRIMA-IS. *The Steering Committee will hold ordinary and extraordinary general meetings. Ordinary Steering Committee meetings shall be called at least once a year, within four months from the end of the financial year,*

*while extraordinary Steering Committee meetings shall be called whenever necessary.*

#### Amendment 47

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 3

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The **General Assembly** shall approve the participation in PRIMA of any **third** country **not** associated to Horizon 2020 **other than those listed in Article 1(2)** after examining the relevance of its participation for achieving the objectives of PRIMA.

###### *Amendment*

The **Steering Committee** shall approve the participation in PRIMA of any country **neither a Member State of Union for the Mediterranean nor** associated to Horizon 2020, after examining the relevance of its participation for achieving the objectives of PRIMA. **The Steering Committee decides what is an adequate percentage of the total effort pursuant to point (c) of Article 4(1).**

#### Amendment 48

##### Proposal for a decision

##### Article 12 – paragraph 3

###### *Text proposed by the Commission*

3. The **General Assembly** shall determine the number of **Management** Board members, which shall not be less than five, and shall appoint them. The **Management** Board shall supervise the Secretariat of the PRIMA-IS.

###### *Amendment*

3. The **Steering Committee** shall determine the number of **Governing** Board members, which shall not be less than five, and shall appoint them **for a four-year renewable term. The Governing Board shall meet at least every three months or whenever deemed necessary.** The **Governing** Board shall supervise the Secretariat of the PRIMA-IS.

## **Amendment 49**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 12 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 2 – point f a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(fa) ensure the transparency of  
PRIMA activities.*

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	Participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA) jointly undertaken by several Member States						
<b>References</b>	COM(2016)0662 – C8-0421/2016 – 2016/0325(COD)						
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	ITRE 27.10.2016						
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	ENVI 27.10.2016						
<b>Rapporteur</b> Date appointed	Francesc Gambús 21.11.2016						
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	30.1.2017						
<b>Date adopted</b>	9.3.2017						
<b>Result of final vote</b>	<table> <tr> <td>+: </td><td>56</td></tr> <tr> <td>–: </td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>0: </td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	+:	56	–:	1	0:	3
+:	56						
–:	1						
0:	3						
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Marco Affronte, Margrete Auken, Pilar Ayuso, Zoltán Balczó, Ivo Belet, Simona Bonafè, Biljana Borzan, Lynn Boylan, Paul Brannen, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nessa Childers, Alberto Cirio, Birgit Collin-Langen, Mireille D’Ornano, Seb Dance, Angélique Delahaye, Mark Demesmaeker, Ian Duncan, Stefan Eck, Bas Eickhout, José Inácio Faria, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Francesc Gambús, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Arne Gericke, Jens Gieseke, Julie Girling, Sylvie Goddyn, Françoise Grossetête, Jytte Guteland, Benedek Jávor, Karin Kadenbach, Urszula Krupa, Peter Liese, Valentinas Mazuronis, Gilles Pargneaux, Bolesław G. Piecha, Pavel Poc, Julia Reid, Frédérique Ries, Annie Schreijer-Pierik, Davor Škrlec, Renate Sommer, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Ivica Tolić, Estefanía Torres Martínez, Nils Torvalds, Adina-Ioana Vălean						
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Nicola Caputo, Albert Deß, Eleonora Evi, Merja Kyllönen, James Nicholson, Gabriele Preuß, Christel Schaldemose, Bart Staes, Carlos Zorrinho						
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Edouard Martin, Lieve Wierinck						



## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

56	+
ALDE	Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Valentinas Mazuronis, Frédérique Ries, Nils Torvalds, Lieve Wierinck
ECR	Mark Demesmaecker, Ian Duncan, Arne Gericke, Julie Girling, Urszula Krupa, James Nicholson, Boleslaw G. Piecha
EFDD	Eleonora Evi
GUE/NGL	Lynn Boylan, Stefan Eck, Merja Kyllönen, Estefanía Torres Martínez
PPE	Pilar Ayuso, Ivo Belet, Alberto Cirio, Birgit Collin-Langen, Angélique Delahaye, Albert Deß, José Inácio Faria, Karl-Heinz Florenz, Francisc Gambús, Jens Gieseke, Françoise Grossetête, Peter Liese, Annie Schreijer-Pierik, Renate Sommer, Ivica Tolić, Adina-Ioana Vălean
S&D	Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Simona Bonafè, Biljana Borzan, Paul Brannen, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nicola Caputo, Nessa Childers, Seb Dance, Jytte Guteland, Karin Kadenbach, Edouard Martin, Gilles Pargneaux, Pavel Poc, Gabriele Preuß, Christel Schaldemose, Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu, Carlos Zorrinho
VERTS/ALE	Marco Affronte, Margrete Auken, Bas Eickhout, Benedek Jávor, Davor Škrlec, Bart Staes

1	-
EFDD	Julia Reid

3	0
ENF	Mireille D'Ornano, Sylvie Goddyn
NI	Zoltán Balczó

### Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention