



Framework for technical cooperation on the environment

A Joint Statement on 16 April 2016 by the High Representative of the European Union, Federica Mogherini, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohammed Javad Zarif, expressed the intention to develop a broad and comprehensive agenda for bilateral cooperation. In light of this joint statement the Directorate General for the Environment of the European Commission and the Department of Environment of the Islamic Republic of Iran intend to establish a technical cooperation on environment.

In recognition of the importance of protecting and conserving the environment, of the role of resource efficiency in achieving green growth, and in acknowledgement of Iran's pressing environmental challenges, the two sides intend to:

- Establish bilateral technical cooperation to address issues of air, soil and water pollution, water resources management, conservation and sustainable use of nature, biodiversity, desertification, waste disposal management, climate change mitigation and adaptation in sectoral responses,
- Exchange experience with a view to identifying appropriate responses, including projects to tackle cross-border environmental challenges, and pollution,
- Exchange experience on marine environment, integrated coastal management and issues related to marine litter.

In the environment sector, as a first step, technical cooperation will be structured around three thematic areas and the two sides will produce, within first quarter in 2017, a roadmap for activities to be implemented as from 2017, and address the technical issues and modes of cooperation in details, related to:

- Circular economy and waste management
- Industrial emissions and air quality
- Water management, including marine environment.

In order to exploit synergies between policy areas, this cooperation will be tightly linked to cooperation activities of technical nature on climate change and efficient use of energy sources.

The final outcome of the work may give rise to further joint technical cooperation.

This text does not intend to create rights or obligations under international law.

Done at Brussels, on 14 December 2016, in two original copies in English and Persian languages.

For the European Commission

For the Islamic Republic of Iran



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