EC/United States agreement for scientific and technological cooperation: extension

2008/0184(CNS) - 29/09/2008 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to extend, for the additional period of 5 years, the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

CONTENT: the Agreement on cooperation in science and technology between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America was signed in Washington on 5 December, 1997 and entered into force on 14 October 1998 (see CNS/1998/0095). The Agreement was concluded for an initial period of 5 years. Subject to review by the Parties in the final year of each successive period, the Agreement may be extended with possible amendments, thereafter for additional periods of 5 years by mutual written agreement by the Parties. By Council Decision 2004/756/EC of 4 October, 2004 the Agreement was renewed for a further period of 5 years which became effective as from 14 October 2003. The Agreement is due to expire on 13 October, 2008 (see CNS/2003/0223).

As it is in the interest of the Community to extend this Agreement in order to continue to facilitate cooperation with the United States of America in common S&T priority areas leading to socio-economic benefits for both Parties, the Commission proposes to extend this Agreement for a period of 5 years from 2008.

The material content of the extended Agreement will be identical to the material content of the current Agreement, apart from amendments of a technical nature to update the scope of the agreement in line with the Seventh Community Research Framework Programme (FP7), consisting mainly in adding research on **space, security and nanotechnologies** to the list of sectors for cooperative activities.