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**Cyprus
and
Latvia**

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on mutual protection of classified information. Luxembourg, 22 June 2015

Entry into force: *1 March 2017, in accordance with article 14*

Authentic texts: *English, Greek and Latvian*

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**Chypre
et
Lettonie**

Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République de Chypre et le Gouvernement de la République de Lettonie sur la protection réciproque des informations classifiées. Luxembourg, 22 juin 2015

Entrée en vigueur : *1^{er} mars 2017, conformément à l'article 14*

Textes authentiques : *anglais, grec et letton*

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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CYPRUS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
LATVIA ON MUTUAL PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED
INFORMATION**

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus and the Government of the Republic of Latvia (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

Recognizing the need to set rules on protection of Classified Information mutually exchanged within the scope of political, military, economical, legal, scientific and technological or any other cooperation, as well as Classified Information generated in the process of such cooperation,

Intending to ensure the mutual protection of all Classified Information, which has been classified by one Party and transferred to the other Party or commonly generated in the course of co-operation between the Parties,

Desiring to create a set of rules on the mutual protection of Classified Information exchanged between the Parties,

Considering the mutual interests in the protection of Classified Information, in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the Parties,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1
Objective**

The objective of this Agreement is to ensure the protection of Classified Information that is commonly generated or exchanged between the Parties.

**Article 2
Definitions**

For the purposes of this Agreement:

a) **“Breach of Security”** means an act or an omission which is contrary to this Agreement or the national laws and regulations of the Parties, the result of which may lead to disclosure, loss, destruction, misappropriation or any other type of compromise of Classified Information;

- b) **“Classified Contract”** means an agreement between two or more Contractors, which contains or the implementation of which requires access to Classified Information;
- c) **“Classified Information”** means any information, irrespective of its form or nature, which requires protection against unauthorised manipulation and has been classified in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the Parties and has been so designated by a security classification level;
- d) **“Competent Authority”** means National Security Authority and any other competent entity which, according to the national laws and regulations of the Parties, is responsible for the implementation of this Agreement;
- e) **“Contractor”** means an individual, legal entity or state body possessing the legal capacity to conclude Classified Contracts;
- f) **“Facility Security Clearance”** means the determination by the Competent Authority confirming, that the legal entity or an individual has the physical and organizational capability to handle and store Classified Information in accordance with the respective national laws and regulations;
- g) **“National Security Authority”** means the state authority of each Party, which in accordance with its national laws and regulations is responsible for the general implementation and supervision of this Agreement; the respective authorities, of the Parties are referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 4 of this Agreement;
- h) **“Need-to-know”** means the necessity to have access to specific Classified Information in the scope of a given official position and for the performance of a specific task;
- i) **“Originating Party”** means the Party which has created Classified Information;
- j) **“Personnel Security Clearance”** means the determination by the Competent Authority confirming, in accordance with the respective national laws and regulations, that the individual is eligible to have access to and handle Classified Information;
- k) **“Receiving Party”** means the Party to which Classified Information of the Originating Party is transmitted;

- 1) **“Third Party”** means any state, organization, legal entity or individual, which is not a party to this Agreement.

Article 3 **Security Classification Levels**

The Parties agree that the following security classification levels are equivalent and correspond to the security classification levels specified in their national laws and regulations:

For the Republic of Cyprus	For the Republic of Latvia	Equivalent in English
ΑΚΡΩΣ ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΟ	SEVIŠKI SLEPENI	TOP SECRET
ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΟ	SLEPENI	SECRET
ΕΜΠΙΣΤΕΥΤΙΚΟ	KONFIDENCIĀLI	CONFIDENTIAL
ΠΕΡΙΟΡΙΣΜΕΝΗΣ ΧΡΗΣΗΣ	DIENESTA VAJADŽĪBĀM	RESTRICTED

Article 4 **Competent Authorities**

1. The National Security Authorities of the Parties are:

For the Government of the Republic of Cyprus:
National Security Authority/
Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Cyprus

For the Government of the Republic of Latvia
Constitution Protection Bureau

2. The Parties shall inform each other through diplomatic channels of any modification of the National Security Authorities.
3. The National Security Authorities shall immediately notify each other about other Competent Authorities.
4. The National Security Authorities shall inform each other of respective national laws and regulations on Classified Information and of any significant amendments thereto and shall exchange information about the security standards, procedures and practices for the protection of Classified Information.

Article 5
Protection Measures and Access to Classified Information

1. In accordance with their national laws and regulations, the Parties shall take all appropriate measures for the protection of Classified Information, which is exchanged or generated under this Agreement. At least the same level of protection shall be assigned to such Classified Information as is provided for the national Classified Information of the equivalent security classification level in accordance with Article 3.
2. The Originating Party shall inform the Receiving Party in writing about any change of the security classification level of the transmitted Classified Information.
3. Access to Classified Information shall be limited to persons on a Need-to-know basis who are authorised in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the Parties to have access to Classified Information of the equivalent security classification level.
4. Within the scope of this Agreement, each Party shall recognise the Personnel Security Clearances and Facility Security Clearances granted in accordance with the national laws and regulations of the other Party. The security clearances shall be equivalent in accordance with Article 3 of this Agreement.
5. The Competent Authorities shall, in accordance with the national laws and regulations, assist each other upon request at carrying out vetting procedures.
6. Within the scope of this Agreement, the Competent Authorities of the Parties shall inform each other without delay about any alteration with regard to Personnel and Facility Security Clearances; in particular about their withdrawal or downgrading.
7. The Receiving Party shall:
 - a) submit Classified Information to any Third Party only upon prior written consent of the Originating Party;
 - b) mark the received Classified Information in accordance with Article 3 of this Agreement;
 - c) use Classified Information solely for the purposes it has been provided for.