PART FOUR

THEMATIC COOPERATION

TITLE I

HEALTH SECURITY

ARTICLE 702

Cooperation on health security

1. For the purpose of this Article, a "serious cross-border threat to health" means a life-threatening or otherwise serious hazard to health of biological, chemical, environmental or unknown origin which spreads or entails a significant risk of spreading across the borders of at least one Member State and the United Kingdom.

2. The Parties shall inform each other of a serious cross-border threat to health affecting the other Party and shall endeavour to do so in a timely manner.

3. Where there is a serious cross-border threat to health, following a written request from the United Kingdom, the Union may grant the United Kingdom ad hoc access to its Early Warning and Response System ("EWRS") in respect of the particular threat to enable the Parties and Member States' competent authorities to exchange relevant information, to assess public health risks, and to coordinate the measures that could be required to protect public health. The Union shall endeavour to respond to the United Kingdom's written request in a timely manner.

Moreover, the Union may invite the United Kingdom to participate in a committee established within the Union and composed of representatives of Member States for the purposes of supporting the exchange of information and of coordination in relation to the serious cross-border threat to health.

Both arrangements shall be on a temporary basis, and in any event for no longer than the duration that either of the Parties, having consulted the other Party, considers necessary for the relevant serious cross-border threat to health.

4. For the purposes of the information exchange referred to in paragraph 2 and any requests made pursuant to paragraph 3, each Party shall designate a focal point and notify the other Party thereof. The focal points shall also:

(a) endeavour to facilitate understanding between the Parties as to whether or not a threat is a serious cross-border threat to health;

(b) seek mutually agreed solutions to any technical issues arising from implementation of this Title.

5. The United Kingdom shall observe all applicable conditions for the use of the EWRS and the rules of procedure of the committee referred to in paragraph 3, for the period of access granted in respect of a particular serious cross-border threat to health. If, following clarificatory exchanges between the Parties:

(a) the Union considers that the United Kingdom has not observed the above-mentioned conditions or rules of procedure, the Union may terminate the access of the United Kingdom to the EWRS or its participation in that committee, as the case may be, in respect of that threat;

(b) the United Kingdom considers that it cannot accept the conditions or rules of procedure, the United Kingdom may withdraw its participation in the EWRS or its participation in that committee, as the case may be, in respect of that threat.

6. Where in their mutual interests the Parties shall cooperate in international forums on the prevention of, detection of, preparation for, and response to established and emerging threats to health security.

7. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the relevant body in the United Kingdom responsible for surveillance, epidemic intelligence and scientific advice on infectious diseases shall cooperate on technical and scientific matters of mutual interest to the Parties and, to that end, may conclude a memorandum of understanding.

TITLE II

CYBER SECURITY

ARTICLE 703

Dialogue on cyber issues

The Parties shall endeavour to establish a regular dialogue in order to exchange information about relevant policy developments, including in relation to international security, security of emerging technologies, internet governance, cybersecurity, cyber defence and cybercrime.

ARTICLE 704

Cooperation on cyber issues

1. Where in their mutual interest, the Parties shall cooperate in the field of cyber issues by sharing best practices and through cooperative practical actions aimed at promoting and protecting an open, free, stable, peaceful and secure cyberspace based on the application of existing international law and norms for responsible State behaviour and regional cyber confidence-building measures.

2. The Parties shall also endeavour to cooperate in relevant international bodies and forums, and endeavour to strengthen global cyber resilience and enhance the ability of third countries to fight cybercrime effectively.

ARTICLE 705

Cooperation with the Computer Emergency Response Team – European Union

Subject to prior approval by the Steering Board of the Computer Emergency Response Team – European Union (CERT-EU), CERT-EU and the national UK computer emergency response team shall cooperate on a voluntary, timely and reciprocal basis to exchange information on tools and methods, such as techniques, tactics, procedures and best practices, and on general threats and vulnerabilities.

ARTICLE 706

Participation in specific activities of the Cooperation Group established pursuant to Directive (EU) 2016/1148

1. With a view to promoting cooperation on cyber security while ensuring the autonomy of the Union decision-making process, the relevant national authorities of the United Kingdom may participate at the invitation, which the United Kingdom may also request, of the Chair of the Cooperation Group in consultation with the Commission, in the following activities of the Cooperation Group:

(a) exchanging best practices in building capacity to ensure the security of network and information systems;

(b) exchanging information with regard to exercises relating to the security of network and information systems;

(c) exchanging information, experiences and best practices on risks and incidents;

(d) exchanging information and best practices on awareness-raising, education programmes and training; and

(e) exchanging information and best practices on research and development relating to the security of network and information systems.

2. Any exchange of information, experiences or best practices between the Cooperation Group and the relevant national authorities of the United Kingdom shall be voluntary and, where appropriate, reciprocal.

ARTICLE 707

Cooperation with the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)

1. With a view to promoting cooperation on cyber security while ensuring the autonomy of the Union decision-making process, the United Kingdom may participate at the invitation, which the United Kingdom may also request, of the Management Board of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), in the following activities carried out by ENISA:

(a) capacity building;

(b) knowledge and information; and

(c) awareness raising and education.

2. The conditions for the participation of the United Kingdom in ENISA's activities referred to in paragraph 1, including an appropriate financial contribution, shall be set out in working arrangements adopted by the Management Board of ENISA subject to prior approval by the Commission and agreed with the United Kingdom.

3. The exchange of information, experiences and best practices between ENISA and the United Kingdom shall be voluntary and, where appropriate, reciprocal.