



ARISTOTLE
UNIVERSITY
OF THESSALONIKI

R E C T O R

Thessaloniki, June 11, 2019
Ref. Nr. 29565

To

Mr. Konstantinos Kargakos
Loan Officer
Lending Operations in Greece
The European Investment Bank
98-100, boulevard Konrad Adenauer
L-2950 Luxembourg

Cc

Mr. Ioannis Kaltsas
Head of Division
Greece & Cyprus Operations
The European Investment Bank
98-100, boulevard Konrad Adenauer
L-2950 Luxembourg

**Subject: EKNOH - expansion of the Nanotechnology Lab LTFN
at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**

Dear Mr. Kargakos,

The Senate of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) has repeatedly discussed the proposal for the expansion of the existing Nanotechnology Lab LTFN, directed by Prof. S. Logothetidis, into a new entity called EKNOH. The Senate has in principle expressed a favorable opinion about the planned financing of the project by the European Investment Bank (EIB). Several implementation scenarios have been evaluated, however, the legal framework regarding the operation of University Research Institutes is constantly changing. Over the last year, the Greek Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs has been promoting the solution of integrating such research Institutes into the University Research Centers (URC), a new organizational structure to be established at each University. AUTH has already proposed the establishment of a PEC, wherein the EKNOH may be included as an Institute. Nevertheless, the relevant provisions for AUTH have not yet been voted into law by the Greek Parliament.

In view of the upcoming Greek parliamentary elections, as well as the elections at AUTH for the new Rector and Vice-Rectors, who will be installed in September 1, 2019, we request a three-month extension regarding the decision on the operating status of EKNOH within AUTH. We expect to have this issue resolved by the end of September 2019.

Sincerely,

The Rector

Professor Pericles A. Mitkas

Internal distribution

- Rector
- Vice Rector for Research & Coordination
- Vice Rector for Finance
- Senate's Secretariat
- Prof. S. Logothetidis