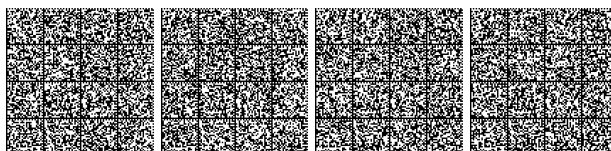
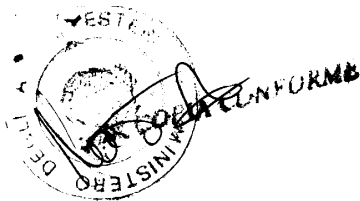


SCHEDA PER: GAZZETTA UFFICIALE		
FIRMA: New York , 27.09.2012	ENTR.VIGORE: alla firma	IN VIGORE: 27.09.2012
PAESI: Italia, Albania, Grecia		
MATERIA:		
POSIZIONE:		DEPOSITO:
TITOLO: Memorandum d'Intesa tra il Governo della Repubblica italiana, il Consiglio dei Ministri della Repubblica di Albania ed il Governo della Repubblica ellenica sulla cooperazione in relazione al progetto di gasdotto transadriatico		
FIRMATO a: NEW YORK		il: 27.09.2012
PROVV.LEG.:		G.U.:
Italia: Controparte: Ricezione:	Comunicato G.U.: (Tabella II:)	
DATA ENTR. VIGORE: 27.09.2012		
DURATA:		
DEN./DEC.:		
NOTE:		
CLAUSOLA ENTR.VIGORE: Entrata in vigore alla firma		ADEMPIMENTI INTERNI: NESSUNO
Lingue ufficiali: inglese		Uff.negoziatore: D.G.M.O Ufficio IV

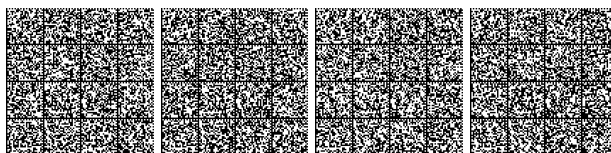




**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC
ON COOPERATION IN RELATION TO THE TRANS ADRIATIC PIPELINE PROJECT**

The Government of the Italian Republic, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Hellenic Republic hereinafter referred to as the Parties:

- (1) *Understanding* that Trans Adriatic Pipeline AG (TAP) is a joint venture company owned by a number of multinational energy companies and that TAP wishes to construct and operate the Trans Adriatic Pipeline Project (the TAP PROJECT), a cross-border interconnector pipeline originating in the Hellenic Republic and designed to transport natural gas through the Hellenic Republic to the Italian Republic via the Republic of Albania;
- (2) Pointing out that a Turkey-Greece cross-border gas Interconnector pipeline (ITG) has already been in operation since 2007;
- (3) *Underscoring* that the TAP Project has been recognized as a "Project of Common Interest" in Decision 1229/2003/EC of the EU Parliament and the Council under the European Union's Trans European Energy Network (TEN-E) guidelines as a "natural gas pipeline to transport natural gas imported from the Caspian Sea region, Russia, or the Middle East, connecting Italy and the south-east European energy markets";
- (4) *Acknowledging* that in view of the schedule for the production of first gas from the Shah Deniz Phase II project in Azerbaijan (Shah Deniz) the development of the TAP Project should progress in a coordinated and timely manner;
- (5) *Noting* that on 10 February 2012 the Consortium selling Shah Deniz Phase II gas declared to continue negotiations with TAP on an exclusive basis as the transportation route of choice to deliver gas to markets in Italy and, potentially, in the crossed Countries and other South East European energy markets, with a final decision to be taken mid-2013;
- (6) *Acting* within the framework of the existing treaty obligations of the Parties in the energy field, including the Energy Charter Treaty and the Energy Community Treaty;
- (7) *Noting* that Italy and Albania have signed an Agreement on the development and integration of the electricity and gas systems, done in Tirana on 10 March 2009;
- (8) *Considering* that the development and interconnection of natural gas transport systems will enhance security of natural gas supply, availability and diversification of routes and sources of supply of natural gas;



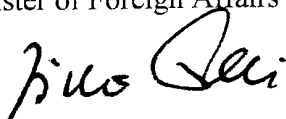
NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties hereby agree the following:

1. The Parties confirm that it is their intention to cooperate to enable the development and implementation of the TAP Project by providing non-discriminatory legal and regulatory conditions for the implementation of the TAP Project, according to the EU regulations and taking into account the EU acquis where applicable.
2. The Parties agree that their competent entities will jointly evaluate the application for the exemption from the requirements established under the relevant European and national legislations relating to the TAP Project, filed by TAP AG to the Italian, Albanian and Greek authorities, taking into account the results of the "market test" performed in agreement with the EU regulations established in Directive 2009/73/CE.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force on the date of its signature.

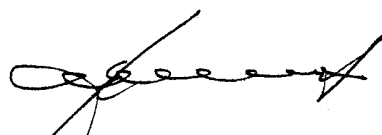
Done in New York on 27 September 2012 in three copies in the English language.

For the Government of the
Italian Republic

Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata
Minister of Foreign Affairs

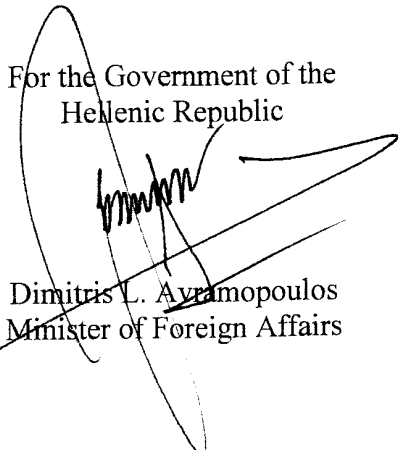


For the Council of Ministers of
the Republic of Albania



Edmond Panariti
Minister of Foreign Affairs

For the Government of the
Hellenic Republic



Dimitris L. Avramopoulos
Minister of Foreign Affairs

