



Brussels, 16.12.2021
C(2021) 9375 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 16.12.2021

on the financing of support measures in favour of Belize for 2021

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Article 24 for support measures thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the European Union - Belize Cooperation Facility, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2021. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (the ‘Financial Regulation’) establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme⁴ for the period 2021-2027⁵, which sets out the following priorities: (1) Green growth and sustainable socio-economic development and (2) Regional integration and border management.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the support measures to be financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe, geographic programme ‘Americas and the Caribbean’ are to contribute to the implementation of the Government of Belize’ development agenda.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy, the OJ prevails.

⁴ C(2021)9098, 14.12.2021

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision on the adoption of a multiannual indicative programme for Belize for the period 2021-2027 - C(2021)9098 final of 14.12.2021

- (5) The action entitled ‘European Union - Belize Cooperation Facility’ aims at supporting the effective implementation of EU cooperation and promote EU policies and values, including through strategic communication and public diplomacy activities.
- (6) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (7) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.

To this end, the Commission in accordance with Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation retains the financial management responsibilities laid down in the Annex.

- (8) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (10) The measure provided for in this Decision does not fall within the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument Committee is required. The European Parliament and the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 of 9 June 2021 will be informed within one month following its adoption.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The annual measure

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the support measures in favour of Belize for 2021 as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following action: European Union - Belize Cooperation Facility set out in the Annex.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the support measures for 2021 is set at EUR 1 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union :

- (a) budget line BGUE-B2021-14.020141-C1-INTPA : EUR 1 000 000;

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3
Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in the Annex.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 16.12.2021

For the Commission
Jutta URPIAINEN
Member of the Commission