



Brussels, 16.12.2021
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 16.12.2021

on Support Measures and Cooperation Facility for Asia and the Pacific 2021

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

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) No 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(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Support Measures and Cooperation Facility for Asia and the Pacific 2021, 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 (“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 action provided for in this Commission Implementing Decision contributes to climate mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programmes (MIPs) for the period 2021-2027 for Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Countries in the Pacific, Iran, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Timor Leste, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Regional Asia Pacific⁴; Joint Programming for the period 2021-2024 for Lao People's Democratic Republic. Each of these programmes foresees the following priority: Support Measures.

¹ OJ L 193 of 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209 of 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)9079, C(2021)9084, C(2021)9076, C(2021)9052, C(2021)9094, C(2021)9133, C(2021)8987, C(2021)9087, C(2021)8994, C(2021)9051, C(2021)9053, C(2021)8992, C(2021)8989, C(2021)8998, C(2021)9291, C(2021)9315, C(2021)9071, C(2021)9137, C(2021)8997 and C(2021)9251.

- (5) The Support Measures and Cooperation Facility included in this Commission Implementing Decision are not part of any country or regional Annual Action Plan.
- (6) The objective pursued by the Support Measures to be financed under this Commission Implementing Decision is to allow studies, meetings, information, awareness-raising, training, preparation and exchange of lessons learnt and best practices, publication activities and any other administrative or technical assistance expenditure necessary for the programming and management of actions, including remunerated external experts; research and innovation activities and studies on relevant issues and the dissemination thereof; expenditure related to the provision of information and communication actions, including the development of communication strategies and corporate communication and visibility of the political priorities of the Union.
- (7) Direct management is envisaged for this measure (procurements and grants).
- (8) The Commission should authorise the launch of a call for proposals and call for tender by means of a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision.
- (9) 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.
- (10) 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.
- (11) 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 – Global Europe Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947 is required. The European Parliament and the Committee should be informed of this Decision within one month following its adoption.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The measure

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual measure for the implementation of the Support Measures and Cooperation Facility for Asia and the Pacific 2021, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2021 is set at EUR 9 900 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union :

- (a) budget line 14.02.01.30: EUR 2 489 000;
- (b) budget line 14.02.01.31: EUR 5 563 000;
- (c) budget line 14.02.01.32: EUR 1 848 000.

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

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, 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 URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission