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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 23.8.2022

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan for the thematic programme on Global
Challenges (People) for 2022-2024**

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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 23(1), Article 23(2) and Article 24 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2022-2024, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2022 to 2024. 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) Some actions provided for in this Decision contribute to climate mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the thematic programme for Global challenges⁴. Under the 'People' priority, the programme aims to push forward the global agenda for inclusive and equal societies with human development for all, notably by supporting health and education, with a specific focus on women and girls, children, young people, and other populations living in vulnerable situations, including migrants and forcibly displaced.
- (5) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 thematic programme 'Global Challenges' are to support the

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 Decision C(2021)9157.

EU global response to the pandemic and its consequences in partner countries. The response will be geared towards enhancing resilience to future shocks and getting back on track on human development, notably by: strengthening health systems, enhancing their pandemic preparedness, prevention, and response capacity, complementing regional and national level action, supporting the resumption of fundamental health services disrupted by the pandemic; strengthening education systems to equip children, youth and the education community with the necessary skills and tools and to ensure quality education, equality in education and foundational skills, pre-conditions to embrace the twin digital and green transitions; empowering youth as change-makers and future decision-makers; promoting the voices of youth, women, persons with disabilities, migrants and internally displaced people, including at the multilateral level, to ensure no one is left behind.

- (6) The action entitled '*Support to global immunisation efforts through GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance*' will contribute to GAVI's mission to save lives and protect people's health by increasing equitable and sustainable use of vaccines. It will support the implementation of its five-year strategic programme for 2021-2025 - Gavi 5.0, to shape markets for vaccines, to ensure sustainable long run development outcomes, help support country health system strengthening and resume immunisation programmes disrupted during the pandemic, and contribute to the prevention of epidemics through stockpiles for vaccines for yellow fever, meningitis, cholera and ebola.
- (7) The action entitled '*2022 Contribution to the Global Fund and its COVID-19 Response Mechanism*' will contribute to the partnership designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The action will allow to complete the political pledge to the Global Fund made by President Juncker in 2019 of EUR 550 million for the sixth replenishment (2020-2022 period)⁵. Support to the COVID-19 Response Mechanism (CRM-19) will help mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on programmes to fight HIV, TB and malaria, reinforce key aspects of health systems and support low- and middle-income countries including for COVID-19 tests, treatments (including medical oxygen), personal protective equipment (PPE) and critical elements of health system strengthening.
- (8) The action entitled '*Health System Strengthening for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Programme – Phase V (2023-2026)*' will contribute, through the WHO-led partnership, to strengthen countries' health systems, advancing countries capacities for the development and implementation of National Health Policies, Strategies and Plans.
- (9) The action entitled '*Support to the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines in selected most under vaccinated countries*' will contribute to the COVID-19 response and global efforts to end the pandemic. It will facilitate the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines in some selected most under-vaccinated countries, including through supporting national governments in the organisation and coordination of vaccination campaigns, reinforcing cold-chain and supply infrastructure management, human resources, and/or addressing challenges with vaccine demand, hesitancy and misinformation.
- (10) The action entitled '*Contribution to Global Partnership for Education 2022-24*' will contribute to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by focusing on basic education. It will support education system transformation through provision of diagnostics, planning and implementation

⁵ An outstanding amount of EUR 140.460.476 still needs to be committed and paid to fulfil the EUR 550 million pledge made by President Juncker for the 6th replenishment.

grants, with a focus on gender and leaving no one behind. It will also incentivise education financing through innovative funding mechanisms and contribute to knowledge sharing and the realisation of the right to education.

- (11) The action entitled '*Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crisis: Education Cannot Wait*' will continue supporting the provision of education services, through partners, in crisis-affected countries and contexts. The right to education remains a challenge for millions of children and youth, especially during emergency or protracted crises. Education is one of the best tools for investing in peace, stability, and economic growth. Through this action, the EU will continue advocating and influencing the global agenda on education in emergencies and protracted crises, leaving no one behind.
- (12) The action entitled 'Support to Global Education Monitoring Report and the International Bureau of Education to support progress on SDG4 and improved quality outcomes in education' will contribute to strengthen outcomes on public goods for SDG4 by supporting two foundational, complementary and mutually reinforcing pillars that are necessary for transforming education: accountability and progress on SDG4 through improved data, monitoring and policy and geographical analysis on one hand, and quality education through curricula development on the other hand.
- (13) The action entitled '*Gender Equality*' will promote the eradication of gender based violence (GBV) at global level, by building and reinforcing coalitions with partners in line with the Generation Equality's commitments. The action aims to: strengthen and disseminate knowledge and best practices, expertise, data and research on how to reduce/eliminate GBV; increase global advocacy by civil society and more particularly women's rights organisations (WROs), and strengthen their capacity and resilience, boosting coalition building and networking.
- (14) The action '*Contribution to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Supplies Partnership Programme*' will support and contribute to the UNFPA Supplies Partnership programme (Phase 3). The partnership supports country-driven actions to ensure a secure, steady and reliable supply of quality reproductive health commodities (contraceptives, male and female condoms, and maternal health medicines); improve their access and use by strengthening national health systems and services; and ensure family planning is afforded a higher level of priority in national strategies, programmes, plans and budgets.
- (15) The action entitled '*Engage, Connect and Empower Youth*' aims to facilitate and increase young people's contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their communities and societies. The action will seek to increase impact and sustainability of outreach to and engagement with young people; strengthen engagement and participation of young people in the policy-making at multilateral fora; empower young people to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs; and increase the inclusivity of young people's contribution to the achievement of the SDGs.
- (16) The action 'Promoting a development-approach towards internal displacement and human mobility induced by disasters, climate change and environmental degradation' will support a development-oriented approach in addressing human mobility induced by disasters, climate change and environmental degradation. The action aims to build resilience and to take preventive action, effectively manage flows and mitigate negative consequences on people's rights realization.

- (17) The action entitled '*Universal Social Protection 2030 (USP 2030)*' will contribute to the establishment of globally recognised digital standards for social protection systems, to increase the efficiency, effectiveness and coverage of national social protection systems and global development cooperation to significantly contribute to the attainment of USP2030, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the people living in poverty and in vulnerable situations.
- (18) The action entitled '*UN Partnership on Rights of Persons with Disabilities*' will support the implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and disability inclusive SDGs for all persons with disabilities with the full involvement of organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) by the end of 2025.
- (19) The action entitled '*Knowledge Hub Human development – Part II*' aims to increase the effectiveness of the human development aspects of our programmes at global, regional and country level. It will provide expertise and support production of new knowledge in the areas of the human rights based approach, mainstreaming of inequality reduction and gender equality, youth and children participation and empowerment, health and social protection programmes, and education and culture programmes.
- (20) The action entitled '*Support Measures*' will provide the necessary support for the sound implementation of the Global Challenges (People) Thematic Programme. This action will cover expenditure associated with the programme implementation in HQ and EU Delegations, including projects preparation, monitoring, evaluation and audit, and related activities such as sector policy analysis and dialogue. The action will also support communication actions designed to raise awareness, understanding and support for the EU's priorities on Human Development and Migration.
- (21) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (22) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (23) 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, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation⁶ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (24) 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.
- (25) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.

⁶ Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (26) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the NDICI-Global Europe Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual action plan for the implementation of the multiannual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges (People) for 2022-2024, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) Support to global immunisation efforts through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance set out in Annex 1;
- (b) 2022 Contribution to the Global Fund and its COVID-19 Response Mechanism set out in Annex 2;
- (c) Health System Strengthening for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Programme – Phase V (2023-2026) set out in Annex 3;
- (d) Support to the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines in selected most under vaccinated countries set out in Annex 4;
- (e) Contribution to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) set out in Annex 5;
- (f) Education in Emergencies and protracted crisis: Education Cannot Wait set out in Annex 6;
- (g) Contribution to the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM) and the International Bureau of Education (IBE) set out in Annex 7;
- (h) Gender equality set out in Annex 8;
- (i) Contribution to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Supplies Partnership Programme set out in Annex 9;
- (j) Engage, connect and empower Youth set out in Annex 10;
- (k) Promoting a development approach towards internal displacement and human mobility induced by disasters, climate change and environmental degradation set out in Annex 11;
- (l) Universal Social Protection 2030 (USP 20230) set out in Annex 12;
- (m) UN Partnership on Rights of Persons with Disabilities set out in Annex 13;
- (n) Knowledge Hub Human Development – part II set out in Annex 14;
- (o) Support Measures set out in Annex 15.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2022-2024 is set at EUR 1 231 510 476, 36, for an amount of EUR 407 260 476,36 for 2022, for an amount of EUR 642 000 000 for 2023 and for an amount of EUR 182 250 000 for 2023, and shall be

financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union :

budget line 14.020240 – Global Challenges People: EUR 1 231 510 476,36

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2023 and 2024 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

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 Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.1 of Annex 2, Annex 3, Annex 5, Annex 6, Annex 7, Annex 8, Annex 9, in point 4.3.2 of Annex 11 and Annex 15, and in point 4.3.3 of Annex 10.

Article 4

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, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated changes⁷ 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.

Article 5

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annexes. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annexes selected in accordance with point 4.3.1 of Annex 1, Annex 4, and Annex 11.

Done at Brussels, 23.8.2022

For the Commission

Jutta URPILAINEN

Member of the Commission

⁷ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.