



Brussels, 8.12.2023
C(2023) 8481 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 8.12.2023

**on the financing of the support measure – cooperation facility – strategic communication
in favour of Yemen for 2023**

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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) 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 measure – cooperation facility – strategic communication in favour of Yemen for 2023, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2023. 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 socio-economic conditions in Yemen remain extremely fragile and volatile. The ongoing conflict and economic crisis are responsible for setting back human development in Yemen by decades, displacing millions and reversing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this context, the drafting of a multi-annual indicative programming document has not been possible.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the annual measure to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme 'Asia and the Pacific' are to support the implementation of strategic communication activities designed to raise awareness, understanding and perception of the EU and its partnership with Yemen.

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.

- (5) The action entitled ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Yemen – Strategic Communication’ aims to support the implementation of strategic communication activities, in line with the new integrated approach to communication in the EU’s external actions, moving away from a project-based communication to a thematic-based, campaign-driven strategy.
- (6) 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.
- (7) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to determine the changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (8) The measure provided for in this Decision does not fall within the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The European Parliament and NDICI Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 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 measure – cooperation facility – strategic communication in favour of Yemen for 2023, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the following action: ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Yemen – Strategic Communication’ set out in Annex.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2023 is set at EUR 900 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union: 14.02.01.30 - NDICI - Middle East and Central Asia.

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 maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁴ 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, where these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

⁴ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

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, 8.12.2023

*For the Commission
Margaritis SCHINAS
Vice-President*