



Brussels, 3.12.2015
C(2015) 8465 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 3.12.2015

**on the individual measure in favour of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to be financed
from the 11th European Development Fund**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2015/322 of 2 March 2015 on the implementation of the 11th European Development Fund¹ and in particular Article 9(1) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2015/323 of 2 March 2015 on the financial regulation applicable to the 11th European Development Fund² and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the National Indicative Programme (NIP) for the Federal Republic of Nigeria for the period 2014-2020³, point 6 of which provides for the following priorities: support measures in the form of increased support to the National Authorising Officer (NAO) and a Technical Cooperation Facility to support and accompany the programming, preparation and implementation of measures to be implemented under the 11th EDF.
- (2) The objective pursued by the measure to be financed under the 11th EDF Internal Agreement⁴ (hereinafter 'Internal Agreement') is to contribute towards poverty reduction in Nigeria through improved effectiveness, efficiency, impact and visibility of EU development cooperation and its ownership by the Nigerian authorities. The specific objectives are to: increase the capacity of the NAO and National Planning Commission to manage EDF funds at federal, state and Local Government Area (LGA) levels in order to ensure effective programming and implementation of EU funded projects and programmes and strengthen the NAO's donor and inter-agency leadership and coordination role by achieving a greater integration of the NAO's functions within Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), in line with the Cotonou Agreement and EDF strategy for technical cooperation.

¹ OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 1.

² OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 17.

³ Decision C(2014)3611 of 12/06/2014.

⁴ Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Union, meeting within the Council, on the financing of European Union aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2014 to 2020, in accordance with the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, and on the allocation of financial assistance for the OCTs to which Part Four of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union applies (OJ L 210, 6.8.2013).

- (3) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012⁵ applicable in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.
- (4) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the partner country specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Articles 17 and 2(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that measures are taken to supervise and support the implementation of the entrusted tasks. A description of these measures and the entrusted tasks are laid down in the Annex to this Decision.
- (5) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable in accordance with Article 29(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.
- (6) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, the Commission should define changes to this Decision which are not substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (7) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the European Development Fund Committee set up by Article 8 of the Internal Agreement.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The individual measure in favour of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund, as set out in the Annex, is approved.

The measure shall include the following action:

- Annex: Support to the Office of the National Authorising Officer IV - Nigeria

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the measure referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 8 500 000 and shall be financed from the 11th European Development Fund.

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

⁵ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

Article 3

Implementation modalities

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entity identified in the attached Annex, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement.

The section “Implementation” of the Annex to this Decision sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases not exceeding 20% of the contribution set by 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 within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling set by this Article.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 3.12.2015

For the Commission

Neven Mimica

Member of the Commission *Neven MIMICA*

Member of the Commission

