



Brussels, 7.11.2024
C(2024) 7634 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 7.11.2024

on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Uganda for 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) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, 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) and (2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Uganda 2024, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2024. Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('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 actions provided for in this Decision should contribute to climate mainstreaming in line with Commission Communication 'The European Green Deal'⁴ and in the Inter-institutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources⁵.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme⁶ for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities: green and climate transition,

¹ OJ L 239, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

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 COM (2019) 640 final of 11 December 2019.

⁵ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

⁶ Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for Uganda for the period 2021-2027, C (2021)9149 final of 15.12.2021

sustainable and inclusive growth and jobs, democratic governance and social inclusion.

- (5) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme ‘Sub-Saharan Africa’ are to: (i) enhance Uganda’s economic development through infrastructure investment and sustainable development of its mining sector, and (ii) contribute to the growth of the nature-based tourism sector in Uganda in an inclusive and sustainable manner, in line with the Forest Partnership principles.
- (6) The action entitled “Support the Sustainable Tourism Value Chain in Uganda” aims at increasing Uganda’s visibility and attractiveness as a sustainable travel destination, increasing local communities’ participation in and benefits from tourism in natural landscapes and their conservation, improving the business environment and supporting the companies active in the tourism value chain and the local communities.
- (7) The action entitled “Global Gateway Support Facility” aims at positioning the EU as a partner of reference in Uganda in line with the Global Gateway and Team Europe Initiatives, and to ensure that mining actors in Uganda contribute to the sustainable economic development of the sector in accordance with national, regional, and international standards and good practices from a human rights-based, and gender equality approach.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (9) 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 Regulation⁷ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (10) 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.
- (11) 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.
- (12) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947,

⁷ 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.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Uganda for 2024, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) Support the Sustainable Tourism Value Chain in Uganda set out in Annex 1;
- (b) Global Gateway Support Facility set out in Annex 2.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2024 is set at EUR 25 500 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 14.020121 of the general budget of the Union.

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 Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.4.1 of Annex 1 and paragraph 4.4.2 of Annex 2.

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, or cumulated changes⁸ 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, 7.11.2024

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁸ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.