



Brussels, 24.11.2015
C(2015) 8089 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 24.11.2015

**on the individual measure in favour of Zimbabwe 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 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 for Zimbabwe³ for the period 2014-2020, point 3.2 of which provides for the following priorities: support to agriculture-based economic development that aims at the creation of a diversified, competitive and efficient sector which i) assures food security at both the household and national levels; ii) contributes to employment and income generation; iii) improves the supply of raw material for industry; iv) contributes to improved export earnings and therefore to enhanced economic growth and stability. The support will play a particular important role in the sector through the development of value chains and contributing to creating an enabling business environment.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the measure to be financed under the 11th EDF⁴ are to create a diversified, competitive and efficient agricultural sector that contributes to inclusive economic recovery and revenue generation, to improve policy framework to enable sustainable agricultural growth and to improve business/marketing environment taking advantage of opportunities arising from interim Economic Partnership Agreement implementation, as well as to enhance food and nutrition security of the targeted population.
- (3) This individual measure is necessary because of the crisis situation existing in Zimbabwe including in the agricultural sector where support is urgently needed to increase the productivity of the sector, which should not wait for the next Annual Action Programme.

¹ OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 1.

² OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 17.

³ Decision C(2015)346 of 30.01.2015.

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 applies (OJ L 210, 6.8.2013).

- (4) 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 by virtue of Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.
- (5) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants the detailed rules on which are set out in Article 128(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 188(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 37(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. The work programme is constituted by the Annex 3, section 5.3.1.
- (6) The authorising officer responsible should be able to award grants without a call for proposals provided that the conditions for an exception to a call for proposals in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable by virtue of Article 37(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323 are fulfilled.
- (7) 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 by virtue of Article 29(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.
- (8) 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 Zimbabwe to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund, as set out in the Annex, is approved.

The programme shall include the following action:

Annex: Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme (ZAGP)

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 40 000 000 and shall be financed from the European Development Fund.

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

Article 3

Implementation modalities

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.

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).

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the authorising officer responsible in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 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, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

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

Done at Brussels, 24.11.2015

For the Commission
Neven MIMICA
Member of the Commission

