



Brussels, 2.2.2015
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 2.2.2015

**on the special measure in the field of health in favour of Zimbabwe to be financed from
the European Development Fund Bridging Facility**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 566/2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 617/2007¹ as regards the application of the transition period between the 10th EDF and the 11th EDF until the entry into force of the 11th EDF Internal Agreement², and in particular Article 9 of its Annex,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 567/2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 215/2008³ on the Financial Regulation applicable to the 10th EDF as regards the application of the transition period between the 10th EDF and the 11th EDF until the entry into force of the 11th EDF Internal Agreement⁴, and in particular Article 26 of its Annex,

Whereas:

- (1) Health outcomes for the population of Zimbabwe have deteriorated following the downturn of the economic situation in the past decade, which has severely affected the capability of the public system to deliver health services to the population. As a consequence key health indicators have deteriorated under-five mortality and infant mortality rates have sharply increased while maternal mortality has more than trebled from 283 per 100 000 live births in 1994 to 960 in 2010-11.
- (2) The overall objective of the action entitled “Contribution to Health Transition Fund IV” is to improve access to basic health services for all Zimbabweans, thus supporting Zimbabwe to achieve health Millennium Development Goals 1c, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8e. The purpose of the action is to improve maternal, new-born and child health by strengthening health systems and scaling up the implementation of high impact maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH) interventions through support to the health sector. The action will be implemented through indirect management with the international organizations UNICEF and UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund).
- (3) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of 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

¹ OJ L 152, 13.6.2007, p. 1.

² OJ L 157, 27.5.2014, p.35.

³ OJ L 78, 19.3.2008, p. 1.

⁴ OJ L 157, 27.5.2014, p. 52.

on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁵ applicable by virtue of Articles 2(1) and 26 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 567/2014.

- (4) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. However, UNICEF and UNFPA are currently undergoing the ex ante assessment. In anticipation of the results of this review, the responsible authorising officer deems that, based on a preliminary evaluation and on the long-standing and problem-free cooperation with it, budget-implementation tasks can be entrusted to these entities.
- (5) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for 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 Articles 29(1) and 2(1) of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 567/2014.
- (6) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').
- (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 between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the financing of Community aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2008 to 2013 in accordance with the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement and on the allocation of financial assistance for the OCTs to which Part Four of the EC Treaty applies⁶.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The following special measure, constituted by the action identified in the second paragraph and attached as annex, is approved:

The action constituting this measure is:

- Annex: “**Contribution to Health Transition Fund IV**”

Article 2

Financial contribution

⁵ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

⁶ OJ L 247, 9.9.2006, p. 32.

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of this special measure is set at EUR 12 350 000 to be financed from the EDF Bridging Facility.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

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

Section 4 of the Annex referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

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

Done at Brussels, 2.2.2015

For the Commission
Neven MIMICA
Member of the Commission

