



Brussels, 20.12.2021  
C(2021) 9814 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 20.12.2021**

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for  
2021**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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## on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for 2021

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 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 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 480/2009<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 23(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for 2021, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme for 2021. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('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 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The actions provided for in this Decision contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa<sup>4</sup> for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities: human development; governance, peace and security, culture; green transition; digital and science, technology and innovation; sustainable growth and decent jobs; migration and forced displacement.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://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.

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Decision adopting a Multiannual Indicative Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa for the period 2021-2027, C(2021) 9373 final of 15.12.2021.

- (5) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe geographic programme Sub-Saharan Africa are to increase private investment to enhance job creation and support young businesses; to provide durable solutions to refugees, asylum-seekers and to protracted displacement situations; to provide institutional support to the African Union and African regional organisations as well as to support the running of the OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement Institutional Framework; to support the implementation of the Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Programme.
- (6) Action 1 entitled 'Regional dimension and management of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies (MAV+) in Africa' will contribute to lay the foundation for an innovative pharmaceutical and health care industrial sector in Africa integrated into the global health architecture. This action is an integral part of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies in Africa (MAV+), which also encompasses interventions at country level (Senegal, Rwanda and South Africa, and indicatively in Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Botswana or Guinea).
- (7) Action 2 entitled 'Accelerating the COVID-19 response and strengthening health systems through digital health tools' aims to support the COVID-19 vaccination efforts, strengthen health systems in sub-Saharan Africa through the deployment of digital health tools and relaunch the mobility and trade exchanges in the region and across the EU and the African Union (AU). This action will complement EU's Global Response to COVID-19, including its commitments to Vaccine pillar of the Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) and to local manufacturing in Africa while it will also promote EU Standards and strengthen the external dimension of the EU's digital agenda.
- (8) Action 3 entitled 'Investments on Regional Infrastructures' will contribute to regional integration in Africa through the development of resilient continental/inter-regional infrastructure for transport multimodal networks, energy networks (including production, transmission and distribution) and digital networks (resilient and secure connectivity as well as advanced regional data infrastructures).
- (9) Action 4 entitled 'Team Europe Initiative to promote Investments in Young Business in Africa' seeks to improve coordination, harmonization and coherence of interventions for MSMEs creation and growth in Africa, especially for (very early and) early stage companies as well as to strengthen the Entrepreneurs Support Organizations ecosystem.
- (10) Action 5 entitled 'Emergency Transit Mechanisms (ETMs) to Niger and Rwanda' aims to provide protection, emergency assistance and durable solutions to refugees and asylum-seekers at risk in urban areas and those being held in Libyan detention centres through emergency evacuation to Niger and Rwanda. The Commission should acknowledge and accept contribution[s] from other donors in accordance with Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement. Where such contribution[s] are not denominated in euro, a reasonable estimate of conversion should be made.
- (11) Action 6 entitled 'Durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations in Sub-Saharan Africa' intends to provide sustainable, diversified and localized solutions to protracted displacement situations in the Horn of Africa, the Sahel and Lake Chad regions and

for the Central African Republic. It will support regional responses to displacement crises while at the same time providing direct assistance to the countries of origin as well as the countries hosting the forcibly displaced under those regional responses, including a focus on cross-border areas when relevant. It will focus on refugees, returnees and cross border displacement.

- (12) Action 7 entitled ‘Support Measures for Regional and Multi-Country Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa’ will support and facilitate the preparation, implementation, communication, audit and evaluation of EU cooperation under the regional MIP; provide institutional support to the African Union and African regional organisations including to strengthen their vertical and horizontal coordination structures; and support the running of the OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement Institutional Framework.
- (13) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (14) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947 of 9 June 2021 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (15) 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (16) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (17) 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (18) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947 of 9 June 2021,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1* *The action plan*

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual action plan for the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for 2021, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) Regional dimension and management of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies (MAV+) in Africa set out in Annex 1;

- (b) Accelerating the COVID-19 response and strengthening health systems through digital health tools set out in Annex 2;
- (c) Investments on Regional Infrastructures set out in Annex 3;
- (d) Team Europe Initiative to promote Investments in Young Business in Africa set out in Annex 4;
- (e) Emergency Transit Mechanisms (ETMs) to Niger and Rwanda set out in Annex 5;
- (f) Durable solutions for forcibly displaced populations in Sub-Saharan Africa set out in Annex 6;
- (g) Support Measures for Regional and Multi-Country Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa set out in Annex 7.

## *Article 2*

### *Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2021 is set at EUR 980 000 000, and shall be financed in one single commitment in the first year from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union :

- (a) budget line Western Africa BGUE-B2021-14.020120-C1-INTPA: EUR 386 760 000;
- (b) budget line Eastern and Central Africa BGUE-B2021-14.020121-C1-INTPA: EUR 411 916 000;
- (c) budget line Southern Africa BGUE-B2021-14.020122-C1-INTPA: EUR 181 324 000 .

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 of the Annexes 1, 2, 3 and 4.

## *Article 4*

### *Flexibility clause*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 considering each financial year separately, or cumulated changes<sup>5</sup> 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

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<sup>5</sup> 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, 20.12.2021

*For the Commission*  
*Jutta URPILAINEN*  
*Member of the Commission*