



Brussels, 17.8.2023
C(2023) 5719 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 17.8.2023

**on the financing of the support measures - cooperation facility - strategic
communication in favour of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and the Republic of
Uzbekistan for 2023**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 17.8.2023

on the financing of the support measures - cooperation facility - strategic communication in favour of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2023

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

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 966/2012¹, 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 24(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the support measures - cooperation facility - strategic communication in favour of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2023, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2023. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('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 Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programmes (MIPs) for the period 2021-2027 for the Kyrgyz Republic⁴, Tajikistan⁵ and the Republic of Uzbekistan⁶. Each of these programmes include a component that foresees the implementation of support activities through support measures and/or cooperation facilities.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

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 Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2021-2027, C(2021) 8987 final of 14 December 2021.

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for Tajikistan for the period 2021-2027, C(2021) 9315 final of 15.12.2021.

⁶ Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for Uzbekistan for the period 2021-2027, C(2021) 9137 final of 14.12.2021.

- (4) The objectives pursued by the annual measure to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme ‘Asia and the Pacific’ are to ensure swift preparation and follow-up of actions, projects and programmes. It also enables the Commission to act with flexibility by means of an instrument that is capable of adapting itself to evolving circumstances and/or dealing with unforeseen situations.
- (5) The measure entitled ‘Support Measure – Cooperation Facility for the Kyrgyz Republic – Strategic Communication’ aims to increase awareness about and support to the EU and its political priorities and values in Kyrgyz Republic, including the priority areas of the country and regional multi-annual indicative programmes and linkages with EU Global Gateway and Green Deal.
- (6) The measure entitled ‘Support Measure – Cooperation Facility for Tajikistan – Strategic Communication’ aims to measurably increase the awareness, understanding and perception of the EU’s priorities, especially the Global Gateway, values and achievements in Tajikistan.
- (7) The measure entitled ‘Support Measure – Cooperation Facility for the Republic of Uzbekistan – Strategic Communication’ aims to improve measurably the general awareness and perception of the EU, its Member States and interests in the Republic of Uzbekistan among both the wider and specialised audiences, including the state institutions.
- (8) 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.
- (9) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (10) The measure provided for in this Decision does not fall within the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The European Parliament and NDICI- Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should be informed of this Decision within one month following its adoption,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The measure

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual measure for the implementation of the support measures - cooperation facility - strategic communication in favour of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2023, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The measures shall include the following:

- (a) ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for the Kyrgyz Republic – Strategic Communication’ set out in Annex I;
- (b) ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Tajikistan – Strategic Communication’ set out in Annex II;
- (c) ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for the Republic of Uzbekistan – Strategic Communication’ set out in Annex III.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2023 is set at EUR 1 950 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union : 14.020130 Middle East and Central Asia.

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

Article 3
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, or cumulated changes⁷ to the allocations of specific measures 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, 17.8.2023

For the Commission
Koen DOENS
Director-General
Directorate General for
International Partnerships

⁷ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.