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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 27.11.2023

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for
2023-2025**

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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) 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 23(2) and Article 43 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of Sub-Saharan Africa for 2023-2025, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023-2025. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 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 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 for the period 2021-2027⁴, 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.

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 of 15 December 2021 adopting a multiannual indicative programme for Sub-Saharan Africa for the period 2021-2027 [C(2021) 9373].

- (5) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) are to address issues with health (zoonotic diseases, vaccines and medicines, sexual reproductive health), support skills development, youth, and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and improve peace and security (through fighting illicit financial flows, assisting in the maintenance of peaceful borders, maritime security and criminal justice). It promotes cultural cooperation. It tackles loss and damage against the impact of climate change and builds resilience and promotes the sustainable use of agricultural and aquatic ecosystems in respect for biodiversity.
- (6) It supports improved economic integration, trade policies, the circular economy, women's financial inclusion, and digital transformation including through partnerships with space agencies and digital authorities. It promotes the free movement of persons and the urban integration of displacement-affected communities. Last but not least, it will support the partnership with the African Union.
- (7) The action 1 entitled 'Strengthening One Health surveillance, early detection and prevention of emerging zoonotic diseases in Africa' aims at strengthening health security in Africa through increasing surveillance and early detection of emerging threats from wildlife and livestock, and by strengthening Africa Centre for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) institutional and operational capacities for coordination of emerging zoonotic disease surveillance, prevention, preparedness, and response.
- (8) The action 2 entitled 'Regional dimension and management of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies (MAV+) in Africa (part III)' aims at increasing equitable access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential health products for all Africans. This objective pursues SDGs 3.8 and 10 and promotes ultimately universal health coverage (UHC). Its attainment requires reinforcing African pharmaceutical systems.
- (9) The action 3 entitled 'Improved access to Innovative and lifesaving commodities for sexual and reproductive health in Africa' intends to reduce preventable maternal and perinatal mortality in Africa, by generating evidence on impact, feasibility, acceptability, and cost-effectiveness of delivery models for priority Post-Partum Haemorrhage (PPH) drugs to accelerate country uptake. It aims at informing both global policy guidelines and country operational arrangements, leveraging regional platforms to increase the capacity of the national health systems to roll out the use of new and underused quality assured PPH commodities and building on country experience where relevant. Lastly, it will improve access to affordable, recommended quality-assured commodities to prevent and treat PPH in Africa.
- (10) The action 4 entitled 'Africa-Europe Youth Academy' intends to ensure that young people act as multipliers of sustainable development and bridge-builders between Africa and Europe, by increasing opportunities for young people in their diversity to act as leaders and multipliers for sustainable development at social, economic, cultural and political level, as well as by improving quality and accessibility of youth leadership actions in Africa and between Africa and Europe.
- (11) The action 5 entitled 'Opportunity-driven Skills and Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Africa' intends to improve VET provision to address the skills needs of Global Gateway and other flagship initiatives while enhancing the employability of women and men in SSA. It aims at ensuring orientation of VET interventions towards decent employment opportunities in selected sectors and value chains (VC) under the Global Gateway (GG) and other flagship initiatives.

- (12) The action 6 entitled ‘Support to Regional Networks of CSOs in Sub-Saharan Africa’ intends to enhance the capacity of civil society networks to play a role in regional dialogues and influence regional policies. It is built around two main pillars: it targets areas and organisations where it is either possible to build on, and strengthen, an ongoing dialogue between regional organisations and civil society networks for the CSOs networks to become recognised stakeholders in regional dialogues managed by regional organisations (Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and Eastern Africa Community (EAC) regions); or where the CSOs’ work is having a recognised regional impact on a specific governance or human development issue.
- (13) The action 7 entitled ‘Enhancing the Capability and Effectiveness of SADC’s Peace and Security Architecture (2023-2027)’ intends to promote peace, security, stability, and democracy as a foundation for regional integration and development in line with RISDP 2020-2030. It will enhance capability and effectiveness of SADC Peace and Security Architecture to enable early response and action. It will also increase capacity of Non-State Actors (NSAs) to strengthen SADC’s Peace and Security Architecture.
- (14) The action 8 entitled ‘Fighting Illicit Financial Flows, Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa’ intends to contribute to the fight against illicit financial flows linked to transnational organised crime and financing of terrorism with the ultimate goal of increasing domestic resource mobilisation, stabilisation and security in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- (15) The action 9 entitled ‘Peaceful and Resilient Borderlands II’ will improve the social, economic, cultural, and institutional conditions for security, social cohesion, development and economic integration of the selected cross-border areas. It entails a window on Sahel-Atlantic Coast countries to strengthen the resilience of local communities, improving local security, fostering cross-border cooperation via common interest activities, and strengthened local governance. Whereas the Great Lakes window will promote economic growth by facilitating movement of people and goods across borders, strengthening social cohesion and security within borderland communities.
- (16) The action 10 entitled ‘Enhancing Maritime Security in Africa (‘Safe Seas for Africa’) contribute to enhance maritime security and safety in Africa according to the geographical area/maritime space namely: East Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean, comprising all coastal countries from Cape Verde to Angola.
- (17) The action 11 entitled ‘PRO-JUST: Strengthening the criminal justice chain in PALOP-TL (Portuguese speaking African countries and Timor Leste)’ aims at enhancing effectiveness of PALOP-TL criminal justice chain in preventing and fighting corruption, money laundering and organised crime, especially drug trafficking. It seeks that: legislation, strategies and action plans on corruption, money laundering and organised crime are drafted in line with international legal frameworks; key state and non-state actors involved in the fight against corruption, money laundering and organised crime and have improved skills to execute their specific mandates and functions. Lastly, it seeks the use of strategic means (including digital) for the criminal justice actors to operationalise their functions and strengthen their mandates.
- (18) The action 12 entitled ‘Africa-Europe Cultural Cooperation and Promotion of inter-cultural dialogue and cultural diversity’ aims at strengthening EU-Africa and intra-Africa regional and multi-country cultural co-creation and cooperation between artists,

creators and cultural professionals and promote intercultural dialogue cultural diversity and a mutual understanding between people of Europe and Africa.

- (19) The action 13 entitled 'Tackling Loss and Damage through climate and disaster risk finance and insurance' aims to enhance the financial protection to populations, livelihoods, ecosystems and assets against the impacts of climate change and natural hazards in Africa, improve the understanding and management of climate and disaster risks and CDRFI mechanisms in AU Member States, increase the availability of effective CDRFI solutions offered to AU countries and populations, and lastly increase access of AU Member States to CDRFI tools and products.
- (20) The action 14 entitled 'Transition to sustainable food systems in Africa (Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture - DeSIRA+ Africa, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research - CGIAR, Support towards operationalisation of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy - STOSAR)' aims to contribute to a climate-relevant, productive, inclusive, and sustainable transformation of agriculture and food systems in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- (21) The action 15 entitled 'Regional Programme in Livestock and Pastoralism for Climate Change Adaptation in Eastern/Horn of Africa' aims at contributing to the development of sustainable climate resilient pastoral systems in Eastern/Horn of Africa that have the ability to improve the livelihoods of pastoral communities, as the complex pastoral sector can be considered as a value chain, whose main pillars are economic, social and environmental.
- (22) The action 16 entitled 'EU support to the Eradication of PPR (Peste des petits ruminants) from Africa' ensures the contribution of small ruminants (including wildlife) to more resilient agri-food systems and livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa. It will strengthen the capacity of regional/ continental actors and institutions; it will establish and strengthen a system of governance for coordinating the global PPR eradication in SSA, prepare and organise the vaccination strategy in response to PPR at all stages.
- (23) The action 17 entitled 'Blue Benguela Current - Integrated Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) for a Sustainable Blue Economy' aims to contribute to an inclusive and sustainable Blue Economy in the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) that embraces the integrated conservation and sustainable use of the region's marine and coastal biodiversity and the associated ecosystem goods and services for the benefit of diverse social groups.
- (24) The action 18 entitled 'TAKIWAMA - Gestion intégrée des eaux dans le bassin des Lacs Tanganyika et Kivu' aims at improving biodiversity and human development in the basin of Lake Tanganyika and Lake Kivu, improve the management of transboundary water resources of both lakes, improve regional integration and the application of sustainable and inclusive economic practices in the basin.
- (25) The action 19 entitled 'West Africa Sustainable Ocean Programme (WASOP) – Regional Programme' aims to enhance the sustainable and integrated use of ocean resources in West Africa boosting inclusive economic growth. It aims at strengthening West Africa Ocean governance, supporting innovative and sustainable Blue Economy growth, enhancing marine and coastal resilience.
- (26) The action 20 entitled 'Africa – EU Space partnership programme' contributes to sustainable development, a green transition and digitalisation in Africa through an

enhanced strategic EU-Africa Space partnership. It will reinforce the African institutional and innovation space cooperation framework including gender-sensitive outreach on the benefits of Space, enhance the capacity to produce and deliver space-based services and applications, data and information, for early warning systems related to hazardous weather or climate events, and lastly, strengthen African space private sector ecosystem and industrial cooperation.

- (27) The action 21 entitled ‘Africa-Europe Digital Regulators Partnership’ aims to advance universal access to meaningful digital connectivity, in line with the African Union Digital Transformation Strategy 2020-2030, namely to improve the implementation of the Digital Transformation Strategy (DTS) for Africa 2020-2030 at continental level, to improve regulations and regional convergence for affordable, secure, reliable and high-speed connectivity infrastructure and services, and to establish and harmonise broadband mapping systems in SSA countries.
- (28) The action 22 entitled ‘Competition and Consumer Product Safety in Sub-Saharan Africa’ aims to foster the business environment, competitiveness, and economic growth of Sub-Saharan Africa economies, as well as strengthening the regulatory and policy frameworks of African competition authorities, strengthening African competition authorities and courts enforcement capacities, and fostering Public and Private sector compliance with competition law, consumer welfare, and also with consumer product safety rules.
- (29) The action 23 entitled ‘Trade and transport facilitation measures for Strategic Corridors in Africa’ aims to contribute to enhanced regional and economic integration in Africa by enhancing transport systems on selected strategic corridors to make them more efficient, greener, and safer. It will boost trade and trading capacities along strategic corridors. Also, planning, management and maintenance of corridor assets are reinforced, and small-scale cross-border trade is facilitated in cross-border markets and regions with a focus on women traders.
- (30) The action 24 entitled ‘SWITCH to Circular Economy in East and Southern Africa (SWITCH-2-CE in ESA)’ Action supports ESA countries in their transition from a linear to circular economy, by creating an environment that encourages investments in circular business models and improving access to necessary skills and finance. It will focus on the following two priority value chains: packaging / plastic waste, and electronics / e-waste.
- (31) The action 25 entitled ‘Women’s Economic Empowerment and Financial Inclusion in Sub-Saharan Africa (WEE-FI Africa)’ aims to increase the economic empowerment and financial inclusion of women in Sub-Saharan Africa in order to create more decent and green jobs in the region. It aims at increasing the number of African women entrepreneurs having access to seed-capital and enhanced business capacities, having better market access, as well as having access to formal financial services.
- (32) The action 26 entitled ‘Data and Research on Migration and Forced Displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa’ will support evidence-based policy-making and programming on migration and forced displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa, improving the availability of mixed migration data in Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as the research on migration and forced displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- (33) The action 27 entitled ‘Support to the ‘Sustainable Urban Integration of Displacement-Affected Communities’ (SUIDAC) in Sub-Saharan African cities’ aims to contribute to the sustainable local integration of Displacement Affected Communities (DACs) in

the targeted Sub-Saharan hosting cities. It aims at improving the self-reliance and social cohesion of DACs (women and men) living in the targeted urban and peri-urban areas of Ethiopia, DRC, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda. Likewise, it will strengthen local city administrations integrated forced displacement response, urban planning and development capacities with specific attention to DACs and vulnerable groups.

- (34) The action 28 entitled ‘Support to Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD region Phase II’ will maximise the development potential of the free movement of persons and the transhumance regime within the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region by supporting IGAD and its Member States in effectively implementing the Protocols of Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance and increasing regular labour migration. It will focus on mobility opportunities and protection within and outside the region. Strengthened capacities of IGAD and Member States to implement the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in IGAD Region. It aims at enhancing capacities of IGAD and Member States in the area of labour migration governance, as well as coordination and implementation mechanism for the provisions of the Protocols on Free movement of Persons and Transhumance.
- (35) The action 29 entitled ‘EU-African Union Partnership Performance Acceleration Programme (AUPPAP)’ aims to promote integrated development and capacity building of the African Union in line with the AU-EU partnership priorities. It will improve organisational performance and effectiveness of processes of the AU, and policy frameworks relevant for the key EU-AU partnership priorities. Likewise, it will strengthen effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation of the AU policies and programmes.
- (36) The measure 30 entitled ‘Support Measure for Regional and Multi-Country Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa’ intends to contribute to: (i) support and facilitate the preparation, implementation, strategic communication, audit and evaluation of EU cooperation under the regional MIP and related MIP priorities; (ii) provide institutional support to the African Union and African regional organisations including to strengthen their vertical and horizontal coordination structures; (iii) support the running of the OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement Institutional Framework; (iv) reinforce the EU’s strategic communication and public diplomacy activities to engage with new audiences through campaigns on the EU’s values and political priorities while also building sustainable networks with existing stakeholders.
- (37) In accordance with Article 43 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, the actions 1, 4, 11, 12, 20, 22, 23 and 29 are of a continental, trans-regional or regional nature, fostering cooperation with countries of Northern Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia); and Timor Leste (as part of the Portuguese-speaking African countries PALOP-TL). The actions’ objective and design fulfil the criteria for Official Development Assistance established by the OECD/DAC, as per the requirements of Article 3(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, contributing to the sustainable development of partner countries and the implementation of the 2030 agenda by ensuring the consolidation of the policy frameworks at African Union level (Actions 20, 22, 23), as well as strengthen health security (Action 1), increase opportunities for youth (Action 4), aim at enhancing the effectiveness of the PALOP-TL criminal justice chain (Action 11) and promote inter-cultural dialogue and cultural diversity (Action 12). Due to the projects’ nature and the importance to ensure complete regional coverage, the eligibility of the action extends exceptionally to the countries of Northern Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia), and Timor Leste as their participation

constitutes a substantial element to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Union financing or to foster continental, regional or trans-regional cooperation.

- (38) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (39) The Commission should authorise the launch of a call for tender by means of a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision.
- (40) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (41) 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) 2018/1046⁵ 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.

The Commission in accordance with Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation retains the financial management responsibilities laid down in point 4.1 of the Annexes 11, 14, 23, 24, 28 and 30.

- (42) 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.
- (43) 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.
- (44) 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,

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 2023-2025, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The multiannual action plan shall include the following actions and measure:

- (a) Strengthening One Health surveillance, early detection and prevention of emerging zoonotic diseases in Africa set out in Annex 1;
- (b) Regional dimension and management of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies (MAV+) in Africa (part III), set out in Annex 2;

⁵ 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.

- (c) Improved access to Innovative and lifesaving commodities for sexual and reproductive health in Africa, set out in Annex 3;
- (d) Africa-Europe Youth Academy, set out in Annex 4;
- (e) Opportunity-driven Skills and Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Africa, set out in Annex 5;
- (f) Support to Regional Networks of CSOs in Sub-Saharan Africa, set out in Annex 6;
- (g) Enhancing the Capability and Effectiveness of SADC's Peace and Security Architecture (2023-2027), set out in Annex 7;
- (h) Fighting Illicit Financial Flows, Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa, set out in Annex 8;
- (i) Peaceful and Resilient Borderlands II, set out in Annex 9;
- (j) Enhancing Maritime Security in Africa ('Safe Seas for Africa'), set out in Annex 10;
- (k) PRO-JUST: Strengthening the criminal justice chain in PALOP-TL (Portuguese speaking African countries and Timor Leste), set out in Annex 11;
- (l) Africa-Europe Cultural Cooperation and Promotion of inter-cultural dialogue and cultural diversity, set out in Annex 12;
- (m) Tackling Loss and Damage through climate and disaster risk finance and insurance, set out in Annex 13;
- (n) Transition to sustainable food systems in Africa (Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture - DeSIRA+ Africa, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research - CGIAR, Support towards operationalisation of the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy - STOSAR), set out in Annex 14;
- (o) Regional Programme in Livestock and Pastoralism for Climate Change Adaptation in Eastern/Horn of Africa, set out in Annex 15;
- (p) EU support to the Eradication of PPR (Peste des petits ruminants) from Africa, set out in Annex 16;
- (q) Blue Benguela Current – Integrated Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) for a Sustainable Blue Economy, set out in Annex 17;
- (r) TAKIWAMA - Gestion intégrée des eaux dans le bassin des Lacs Tanganyika et Kivu, set out in Annex 18;
- (s) West Africa Sustainable Ocean Programme (WASOP) – Regional Programme, set out in Annex 19;
- (t) Africa – EU Space partnership programme, set out in Annex 20;
- (u) Africa-Europe Digital Regulators Partnership, set out in Annex 21;
- (v) Competition and Consumer Product Safety in Sub-Saharan Africa, set out in Annex 22;
- (w) Trade and transport facilitation measures for Strategic Corridors in Africa, set out in Annex 23;
- (x) SWITCH to Circular Economy in East and Southern Africa (SWITCH-2-CE in ESA), set out in Annex 24;

- (y) Women's Economic Empowerment and Financial Inclusion in Sub-Saharan Africa (WEE-FI Africa), set out in Annex 25;
- (z) Data and Research on Migration and Forced Displacement in Sub-Saharan Africa, set out in Annex 26;
- (aa) Support to the 'Sustainable Urban Integration of Displacement-Affected Communities' (SUIDAC) in Sub-Saharan African cities, set out in Annex 27;
- (bb) Support to Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD region Phase II, set out in Annex 28;
- (cc) EU-African Union Partnership Performance Acceleration Programme (AUPPAP), set out in Annex 29;
- (dd) Support Measure for Regional and Multi-Country Programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa, set out in Annex 30;

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the multiannual action plan for 2023-2025 is set at EUR 1 317 500 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line Western Africa 14.020120: EUR 450 975 000 (EUR 240 725 000 for exercise N; EUR 164 250 000 for exercise N+1; EUR 46 000 000 for exercise N+2);
- (b) budget line Eastern and Central Africa 14.020121: EUR 533 925 000 (EUR 318 975 000 for exercise N; EUR 143 950 000 for exercise N+1; and EUR 71 000 000 for exercise N+2).
- (c) budget line Southern Africa 14.020122: EUR 332 600 000 (EUR 210 100 000 for exercise N; EUR 79 500 000 for exercise N+1; and EUR 43 000 000 for exercise N+2).

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2024 and 2025 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

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 4.3.1 of Annex 1, point 4.3.1 of Annex 2, point 4.4.1 of Annex 3, point 4.3.1 of Annex 4, point 4.3.1 of Annex 5, points 4.4.2 and 4.4.3 of Annex 6, point 4.4.1 of Annex 7, point 4.4.1 of Annex 8, point 4.4.2.1 and 4.4.2.2 of Annex 9, point 4.4.2.1, 4.4.2.2 and 4.4.2.3 of Annex 10, point 4.4.1 of Annex 11, points 4.4.1, 4.4.2 and 4.4.3 of Annex 12, point 4.4.2 of Annex 13, points 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Annex 14, point 4.4.2 of Annex 15, point 4.3.1 of Annex 16, point 4.4.1 of Annex 17, points 4.4.2 and 4.4.3 of Annex 18, points 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.4, 4.4.5 and 4.4.6 of Annex 19, points 4.4.2, 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Annex 20, points 4.4.3, 4.4.4 and 4.4.5 of Annex 21, points 4.4.2 and 4.4.3 of Annex 22, points 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of Annex 23, point 4.4.1 of Annex 24, point 4.3.2 of Annex 25, point

4.4.2 of Annex 26, point 4.4.1 of Annex 27, 4.4.2 of Annex 28, point 4.4.3 of Annex 29, and point 4.4.3 and 4.4.4.1 of Annex 30.

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, or cumulated change 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.

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.

Article 5
Grants and Procurement

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annexes. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annexes selected in accordance with point 4.4.1.4 of Annex 6, point 4.4.1 of Annex 10, points 4.4.1.1, 4.4.1.2 of Annex 19, point 4.4.1 of Annex 20, point 4.3.1 of Annex 25, point 4.4.1 of Annex 28, point 4.4.1 of Annex 29, and point 4.4.1.1 and 4.4.1.2 of Annex 30.

Launching a call for tender under a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision shall be authorised as of the date set out in point 4.4.1 of Annex 18.

Done at Brussels, 27.11.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission