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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 6.11.2023

**on the financing of the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global
Challenges People – Migration for 2023**

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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) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) To implement the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges People – Migration for 2023, in line with the related Multi-annual Indicative Programme 2021-2027³, an annual⁴ financing decision must be adopted, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2023. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') lays down detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance must comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union⁵.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the thematic programme for Global Challenges⁶. Under the 'People' priority area, the programme aims to push forward the global agenda for inclusive and equal societies with human development for all, notably by providing support in the fields of health, education, gender equality, children and youth, decent work and social inclusion, culture, migration and forced displacement.
- (4) The objective pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 Global Challenges thematic programme is to strengthen the EU as a

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ C(2021)9157

⁴ Multiannual financing decision always constitutes a multiannual action plan/measure.

⁵ www.sanctionsmap.eu. The sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). If there is any discrepancy between the map and the OJ, the OJ prevails.

⁶ Decision C(2021)9157

global actor in the field of migration and forced displacement; it should contribute to achievements on the external dimension of the EU migration policy, in line with priorities embedded in the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum⁷. It will help the EU to build comprehensive, sustainable and balanced migration partnerships and to improve cooperation, at global and intra-continental level, in support of Sustainable Development Goal 10.7, which encourages responsible and well-managed migration policies. The Annual Action Plan will promote the positive impact of migration on development, enhance the EU's influence, voice and visibility in multilateral frameworks and ultimately support the delivery of EU political commitments in this domain.

- (5) The action entitled '*The European Union Global Diaspora Facility (EUDiF) – phase II*' will help increase diaspora engagement for development in EU partner countries at global level. The action will notably support authorities in partner countries, as well as diaspora organisations in the EU through technical and/or financial assistance, while strengthening evidence, knowledge, dialogue and coordination among diaspora stakeholders.
- (6) The action entitled 'Promoting Action and Cooperation among countries at global level against Trafficking in Human Beings and the Smuggling of Migrants (PACTS)' aims to promote operational cooperation and coordination at global level against trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants. The action will specifically focus on enhancing the capacities of law enforcement for effective investigation and prosecution of the two crimes, the strengthening of frameworks for assistance and protection of victims of trafficking and smuggling and increased engagement of partner countries in multilateral policy dialogue.
- (7) The action entitled '*Technical Assistance Facility on Migration and Forced Displacement*' will help to improve the management of migration and forced displacement in partner countries and to strengthen EU-funded cooperation programmes and partnerships on migration and forced displacement. The action will support partner countries in building capacity to manage migration and forced displacement challenges, by providing short-term expertise, in line with international and EU standards and practices. It will also provide Commission headquarters and Delegations with technical assistance in the form of high-quality training, expertise, studies, information etc., ultimately enhancing the quality of EU-funded actions on migration and forced displacement.
- (8) The Commission should acknowledge and accept contributions from other donors in accordance with Article 21(2) of the Financial Regulation, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement. Where such contributions are not denominated in euro, a reasonable estimate of the conversion rate should be made.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for implementation of the actions.
- (10) The Commission is to protect the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with implementing Union funds by indirect management, as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.

⁷ COM (2020)609, 23.9.2020

- (11) To this end, the systems and procedures of such entities and persons are to be assessed in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation⁸ and, if necessary, appropriate supervisory measures are to be put in place in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (12) 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.
- (13) In order to allow for flexibility in implementing the action plan, it is appropriate to allow changes not substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (14) 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 annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the thematic programme on Global Challenges People – Migration for 2023, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) The European Union Global Diaspora Facility (EUDiF) - phase II, set out in Annex 1;
- (b) Promoting Action and Cooperation among countries at global level against Trafficking in Human Beings and the Smuggling of Migrants (PACTS), set out in Annex 2;
- (c) Technical Assistance Facility on Migration and Forced Displacement, set out in Annex 3.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2023 is set at EUR 20 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered under the following line in the general budget of the Union:

- budget line 14.020240 – Global Challenges People: EUR 20 000 000;

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 4.3.1 of Annexes 1, 2 and 3.

⁸ 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.

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, cumulated changes⁹ to the allocations for specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, and extensions to the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation (provided 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, 6.11.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁹ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.