



Brussels, 25.4.2023
C(2023) 2903 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 25.4.2023

on the financing of the multiannual support measures in favour of Asia for 2023 and 2024 with a specific focus on economic policies and public financial management

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 25.4.2023

on the financing of the multiannual support measures in favour of Asia for 2023 and 2024 with a specific focus on economic policies and public financial management

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 966/2012¹, 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 480/2009², and in particular Article 24 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual support measures in favour of Asia for 2023 and 2024 with a specific focus on economic policies and public financial management, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual³ financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023 and 2024. 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 TFEU⁴.
- (3) The action provided for in this Decision contributes to climate mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the Regional Multiannual Indicative Programme⁵ for the period 2021-2027 for Asia and the Pacific region that includes a component that foresees the implementation of support activities through support measures and/or cooperation facilities.
- (5) The objective pursued by the multiannual support measure to be financed under Regulation (EU) 2021/947, geographic programme 'Asia and the Pacific' is to ensure

¹ OJ L 193 of 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209 of 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ Multiannual financing decision shall always constitute a multiannual action plan/measure.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Decision C(2021)9251 of 15.12.2021.

a swift preparation and follow-up of actions, projects and programs in particular focusing on initiatives to strengthen institutions' capacities and skills to design and implement economic policies and Public Financial Management (PFM) systems. It also enables the European 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.

- (6) The action entitled “Multiannual support measures in favour of Asia for 2023 and 2024 with a specific focus on economic policies and public financial management” aims to facilitate the implementation of national and regional programmes by providing funding for all necessary support operations, with a specific focus on strengthening economic policies and public financial management of beneficiary countries, to underpin sustained inclusive economic growth .
- (7) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (8) 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 the Financial Regulation.

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)⁶ of the Financial Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (9) 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.
- (10) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the support measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (11) The measure 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 measure*

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual measure for the implementation of the multiannual support measures in favour of Asia for 2023 and 2024 with a specific focus on economic policies and public financial management, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the following action: “Multiannual support measures in favour of Asia for 2023 and 2024 with a specific focus on economic policies and public financial management” set out in the Annex.

⁶ 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 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2023 and 2024 is set at EUR 13 500 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union.

For the year 2023:

- (a) budget line 14 02 01 30 (Middle East and Central Asia): EUR 1 000 000
- (b) budget line 14 02 01 31 (South and East Asia): EUR 9 000 000

For the year 2024:

- (c) budget line 14 02 01 30 (Middle East and Central Asia): EUR 1 500 000
- (d) budget line 14 02 01 31 (South and East Asia): EUR 2 000 000

The appropriations provided for 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, following the adoption of those budgets 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 Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.4.1 of the Annex.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000, not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated changes⁷ 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 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, 25.4.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

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