



Brussels, 13.11.2024
C(2024) 8040 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.11.2024

**on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau for
2024**

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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) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, 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(1) and (2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau for 2024, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2024 in accordance with Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('the Financial Regulation').
- (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) 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.
- (4) 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 the Financial Regulation.
- (5) The actions provided for in this Decision contribute to climate mainstreaming in line with Commission Communication 'The European Green Deal' and the Inter-institutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources⁴.

¹ OJ L 239, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

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 OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

- (6) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2021-2027⁵, as amended following the mid-term review⁶, which sets out the following priorities: Human development (priority area 1); Green and inclusive economy (priority area 2); and Good governance and stability (priority area 3).
- (7) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme ‘Sub-Saharan Africa’ are to strengthen the efficiency and quality of the national health system and reinforce democratic governance, with the purpose of consolidating democracy and facilitating lasting peace.
- (8) The action entitled ‘Strengthening the health system towards universal health coverage’ aims at enhancing the efficiency, quality and accountability of the national health system in Guinea-Bissau through: i) enhanced Government capacity to manage the health system; ii) improved access to essential medical products; and iii) a better skilled and motivated health workforce.
- (9) The action entitled ‘Strengthening democratic governance in Guinea-Bissau’ aims at reenforcing democratic governance, with the purpose of consolidating democracy and facilitating lasting peace in the country. It will strengthen civil society and the parliament as crucial oversight actors of the democratic system and the smooth running of electoral cycles.
- (10) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the actions.
- (11) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regard to persons and entities entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 157(3) of the Financial Regulation. To that end, and before a contribution agreement can be signed, such persons and entities are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 157(4) of the Financial Regulation⁷ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 157(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (12) 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 for the implementation of the annual action plan 2024 in favour of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision adopting the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Republic of Guinea-Bissau for the period 2021-2027, C(2021)9363 final of 15.12.2021.

⁶ Commission Implementing Decision amending country, multi-country and regional Multiannual Indicative Programmes 2021-2027 for Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Americas and the Caribbean and the Multiannual Indicative Programmes on Civil Society Organisations, Global Challenges and Human Rights and Democracy, C(2024)7502 final of 31.10.2024.

⁷ Except for the cases referred to in Article 157(7) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (a) Strengthening the health system towards universal health coverage set out in Annex 1;
- (b) Strengthening democratic governance in Guinea-Bissau set out in Annex 2.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2024 is set at EUR 16 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) Budget line 14.020120 – Western Africa: EUR 16 000 000.

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 4.4.1 of the Annex 1 and in point 4.4.2 and 4.4.3. of the Annex 2.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁸ 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, 13.11.2024

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁸ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.