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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 9.11.2023

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Americas and the
Caribbean for 2023 part II and 2024 part I**

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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) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Americas and the Caribbean for 2023 part II and 2024 part I³, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual programme part II, for 2023 and part I for 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 Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean⁵ for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities: 'Green Transition', 'Digital Transformation and Innovation', 'Sustainable and Inclusive Economy', 'Democratic Governance, Security and Migration', and 'Social Cohesion and Addressing Inequalities'.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme 'the Americas and the Caribbean' is to contribute to the EU's overall strategic objectives for its external action, as laid

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ Commission implementing decision on the financing of the annual action plan part I in favour of the Americas and the Caribbean for 2023, Decision C(2023)3893 of 9.06.2023.

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)9356 of 13.12.2021.

out by the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean for the period 2021-2027.

- (5) The action entitled ‘2023 Regional Cooperation Facility for Americas and the Caribbean’ aims to contribute to the strengthening of the partnership of the EU with the LAC region, the EU Global Gateway strategy for the region, its multi-country actors and the countries concerned, and to their sustainable development.
- (6) The action entitled ‘Regional programme on EU – Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility LACIF’ aims to foster sustainable and inclusive economic, environmental, and social development, through mobilising investments in key sectors of the Global Gateway strategy.
- (7) 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 conversion should be made.
- (8) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of both actions.
- (10) 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) of the Financial Regulation⁶ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (11) 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.
- (12) 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.
- (13) 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 the Americas and the Caribbean for 2023 part II and 2024 part I, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) ‘Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility LACIF’, set out in Annex 1;

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.

- (b) ‘2023 Regional Cooperation Facility for Americas and the Caribbean’, set out in Annex 2.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2023 and 2024 is set at EUR 114 220 000 (EUR 20 000 000 + EUR 94 220 000), and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- (1) General budget of the Union for 2023: budget line 14.020140-C1-INTPA: EUR 20 000 000
- (2) General budget of the Union for 2023: budget line 14.020140-C7-INTPA: EUR 19 210 000
- (3) General budget of the Union for 2023: budget line 14.020141-C7-INTPA: EUR 40 000 000
- (4) General budget of the Union for 2024: budget line 14.020140-C1-INTPA: EUR 35 010 000

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 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 the Annex 1 and point 4.3.3 of the Annex 2.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

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

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

Article 5
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex 2. Grants may be awarded to the bodies selected in accordance with point 4.3.1 of the Annex 2.

Article 6
Financial instruments

The Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility, adopted by decision C(2021)9452⁸, is hereby re-plenished.

The provision of financial support by means of blending for the amount set in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.1 and in the Appendix 2 of the Annex 1.

Done at Brussels, 9.11.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁸ Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan - part 1 - in favour of the Latin America and Caribbean region for 2021.