



Brussels, 24.4.2023
C(2023) 2745 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 24.4.2023

**on the financing of an individual measure in favour of the Americas and the Caribbean
for 2023**

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on the financing of an individual measure in favour of the Americas and the Caribbean for 2023

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(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the individual measure in favour of the Americas and the Caribbean for 2023, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the individual measure, for 2023. 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 TFEU³.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Americas and the Caribbean⁴ 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 action provided for in this Decision contributes to the energy transition in Chile, in line with the priority 'Green Transition' and 'Sustainable and Inclusive Economy'.
- (5) The objectives pursued by the individual measure 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 out by

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 Decision C(2021)9356 of 13.12.2021.

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

- (6) The action entitled “Global Gateway Renewable Hydrogen Fund” aims to promote the incipient renewable hydrogen market in Chile and foster local supply chains, while considering the importance of a just energy transition. The project is embedded in the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) for the development of Green Hydrogen in Chile, which aims at supporting the decarbonisation of the Chilean economy, creating green jobs, and generating business opportunities for Chilean and European companies.
- (7) The proposed intervention is part of the Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility (LACIF, the ‘blending’ facility under NDICI-Global Europe), which was approved as the action of the annual action plan - part 1 - in favour of the Latin America and Caribbean region for 2021⁵ and tackles the following priority areas of the Regional Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP): 1) Green Transition, 2) Digital Transformation, and 3) Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Recovery. This specific action proposed to be funded in 2023 is the blending initiative “Global Gateway Renewable Hydrogen Fund” with a proposed allocation of EUR 16.51 million.
- (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 conversion should be made.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (10) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regard 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 measure, 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 measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947,

⁵ Decision C(2021)9452 of 13.12.2021.

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.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual measure for the implementation of the individual measure in favour of the Americas and the Caribbean for 2023, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the action “Global Gateway Renewable Hydrogen Fund”, set out in the Annex.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the individual measure for 2023 is set at EUR 16 510 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

- General budget of the Union for 2023: budget line 14.020140: EUR 16 510 000;

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 Annex, 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.

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 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, 24.4.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPIAINEN
Member of the Commission

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