



Brussels, 24.4.2023
C(2023) 2776 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 24.4.2023

**amending Commission Decision C(2019)7845 final on the financing of the annual action
programme 2019 in favour of the Kingdom of Eswatini**

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amending Commission Decision C(2019)7845 final on the financing of the annual action programme 2019 in favour of the Kingdom of Eswatini

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2015/322 of 2 March 2015 on the implementation of the 11th European Development Fund¹, and in particular Article 9(1) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1877 of 26 November 2018 on the financial regulation applicable to the 11th European Development Fund, and repealing Regulation (EU) 2015/323², and in particular Article 24 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By its Decision C(2019)7845 final³ the Commission has adopted the annual action programme 2019 in favour of the Kingdom of Eswatini.
- (2) This Decision foresees the action: Eswatini Livestock Value Chain Development Program (ELVCDP), which aims to contribute to economic growth and job creation, poverty reduction, gender equality and women empowerment by creating economic opportunities for smallholder farmers, women and youth through strengthening the livestock value chain.
- (3) Within the prevailing new conditions on the ground in Eswatini, considerable delays in implementation, tender failures and general poor local capacity are faced. Reflections on other ongoing 11th EDF programmes implemented through the same modality (Programme Estimates and Service Contracts) have shown that these approaches are not efficient, and lead to enormous workload, which strains the relations between the EU Delegation and the partner country. In this context, the Kingdom of Eswatini has agreed to a change in implementation modality from Indirect Management with the Government of Eswatini to Indirect Management with a Pillar Assessed Entity. Furthermore, a budget reallocation as well as an extension of operational implementation duration and the period of execution are proposed.
- (4) Therefore, Decision C(2019)7845 final should be amended accordingly.
- (5) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU⁴.
- (6) This Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the EDF Committee established under Article 8 of the Internal Agreement⁵,

¹ OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 1.

² OJ L 307, 3.12.2018, p. 1.

³ Commission Decision C(2019)7845 final of 30 October 2019.

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.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Commission Decision C(2019) 7845 final is amended as follows:

- Annex 2 to the Commission Decision C(2019) 7845 final is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 24.4.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁵ Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Union, meeting within the Council, on the financing of European Union aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2014 to 2020, in accordance with the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, and on the allocation of financial assistance for the Overseas Countries and Territories to which Part Four of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union applies, OJ L 210, 6.8.2013, p. 1.