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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 24.7.2015**

**on the Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of the Republic of Namibia to be  
financed from the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund**

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### **on the Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of the Republic of Namibia to be financed from the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund**

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 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 9 (1) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2015/323 of 2 March 2015 on the financial regulation applicable to the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF) National Indicative Programme (NIP) 2014–2020 for co-operation between the Republic of Namibia and the European Union<sup>3</sup> aligned to the Government's priorities around two focal sectors: (i) Education and Skills and (ii) Agriculture. In addition, the NIP foresees measures in favour of civil society and measures to support or accompany the implementation of the programme.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF<sup>4</sup> are to promote a well-educated and skilled population, which is a critical enabler for Namibia's transition to a globally competitive country; to support or accompany a possible revision of the programming, or the preparation or implementation of actions and to support to the National Authorising Officer (NAO) and professional enhancement of staff in the NAO office and other offices that are key for EU – Namibia cooperation.
- (3) Action entitled “Support to Vocational Education and Training” aims at contributing to the improvement in access, quality and relevance of Vocational Education and Training in Namibia. This objective will be achieved through the establishment of a Training Hub and a sustainable Vocational Education and Training information and awareness raising campaign.
- (4) Action entitled “National Authorising Officer/National Planning Commission Support” aims at providing targeted support to interventions funded under the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund and other EU funded initiatives; strengthening the National Planning Commission's overall capacity to manage Official Development

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 58, 3.3.2015, p. 17.

<sup>3</sup> Commission Decision C(2014)7781 of 30.10.2014.

<sup>4</sup> 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 OCTs to which Part Four of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union applies, OJ L 210, 6.8.2013.

Assistance; and contributing to the successful implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation of National Development Plans.

- (5) Action entitled “Technical Cooperation Facility” will be used to support the preparation and the implementation of the actions financed under the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund and eventually a mid-term review of the NIP for Namibia.
- (6) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012<sup>5</sup> applicable by virtue of Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.
- (7) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants the detailed rules on which are set out in Article 128(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 188(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. The work programme is constituted by the Annex 1 (section 5.3.1).
- (8) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entity specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that this entity guarantees a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union equivalent to that required when the Commission manages Union funds. This entity complies with the conditions of points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and the supervisory and support measures are in place as necessary
- (9) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the partner country specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Articles 17 and 2(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that measures are taken to supervise and support the implementation of the entrusted tasks. A description of these measures and the entrusted tasks are laid down in the Annexes 2 and 3 to this Decision.
- (10) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable by virtue of Articles 29(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.
- (11) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, the Commission should define changes to this Decision which are not substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (12) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Development Fund Committee set up by Article 8 of the 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

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<sup>5</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

for the OCTs to which Part Four of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union applies<sup>6</sup>,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

### *Article 1*

#### **Adoption of the measure**

The Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of the Republic of Namibia to be financed from the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund, as set out in the Annexes, is approved.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Annex 1: Support to Vocational Education and Training;
- Annex 2: National Authorising Officer/National Planning Commission Support Programme;
- Annex 3: Technical Cooperation Facility.

### *Article 2*

#### **Financial contribution**

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 15 000 000 and shall be financed from the European Development Fund.

The financial contribution provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

### *Article 3*

#### **Implementation modalities**

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the attached Annexes 1, 2 and 3, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

The section “Implementation” of the Annexes to this Decision sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

### *Article 4*

#### **Non-substantial changes**

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20 % of the contribution set by the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes 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 within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling set by this Article.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

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<sup>6</sup> OJ L 210, 6.8.2013, p. 1

Done at Brussels, 24.7.2015

*For the Commission*  
*Neven MIMICA*  
*Member of the Commission*