



Brussels, 27.11.2023
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 27.11.2023

**on the financing of the multiannual support measures in favour of the Overseas
Countries and Territories for 2023 and 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) 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 Council Decision (EU) 2021/1764 of 5 October 2021 on the association of the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) with the European Union including relations between the European Union on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other², and in particular Article 82 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the support measures for all Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT), it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023 and 2024 in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947³ 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 480/2009. 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 objectives pursued by the multiannual measure to be financed under the Decision (EU) 2021/1764 are to underpin the EU-OCT partnership through the mobilisation of a flexible and demand driven facility for technical expertise and support.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 355, 7.10.2021, p.6.

³ OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

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.

- (4) The support measures in favour of Overseas Countries and Territories aim to strengthen their capacities to engage in the EU-OCT policy dialogue and to formulate and implement strategic policies, regulatory frameworks and cooperation programmes.
- (5) The action entitled ‘Support measures OCT 2023-2024’ will combine the OCT cooperation facility, which is a flexible and demand driven facility to rapidly mobilise technical assistance, and possible support to the OCT Association (OCTA).
- (6) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (7) 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.
- (8) 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.
- (9) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 90 of Decision (EU) 2021/1764,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The measure

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual measure for the implementation of the support measures in favour of Overseas Countries and Territories for 2023 and 2024, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the following action: Support measures OCT 2023-2024 set out in the Annex.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2023 and 2024 is set at EUR 3 400 000, for an amount of EUR 2 200 000 for 2023 and EUR 1 200 000 for 2024, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union :

- (a) budget line 14.050100.02: EUR 3 400 000.

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
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, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated

changes⁵ 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.

Article 4 *Grants Procurement*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Action Document.

Done at Brussels, 27.11.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁵ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.