



Brussels, 1.12.2023
C(2023) 8512 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 1.12.2023

**on the financing of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Republic of Zambia for
2023-2024**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

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) and Article 43 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action plan in favour of the Republic of Zambia for 2023-2024, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2023 and 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 TFEU³.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme⁴ for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities: green partnerships for sustainable recovery, growth and decent jobs, human development and resilience, and fair, inclusive and peaceful society.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the multiannual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme 'Sub-Saharan Africa' are to support the Government of Zambia to i) advance their climate resilient transition towards green growth and a decarbonised, environmentally friendly, and inclusive economy, ii) increase access to green energy and water supply for all, and iii) support

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 Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Republic of Zambia for the period 2021-2027 C(2021)9057 final of 14.12.2021.

the children of Zambia to reach their potential and to improve young female adolescents' resilience.

- (5) The action entitled “Climate Action and National Determined Contribution Implementation Support in Zambia” aims to improve Zambia’s climate change policy design, implementation and monitoring capacities , in line with the National Determined Contributions (NDC) and its Implementation Framework.
- (6) The action entitled “Nexus Energy and Water Programme for Zambia (NEWZA)” aims to improve the generation, access, and efficiency of renewable energy, while simultaneously ensuring access to water, sanitation and hygiene.
- (7) The action entitled “Equal Chances for Human Development” aims to improve access to more inclusive, equitable and quality early childhood development and education for children aged 0-8 years, and decrease inequalities through enhancing wellbeing and opportunities for female adolescents, while strengthening coordination across government systems to enhance the effectiveness of integrated service delivery.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (9) 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 Regulation⁵ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (10) 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. 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.
- (11) 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 Republic of Zambia for 2023-2024, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) ‘Climate Action and National Determined Contribution Implementation Support in Zambia’ set out in the Annex 1;

⁵ 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) 'Nexus Energy and Water Programme for Zambia (NEWZA)', set out in the Annex 2;
- (c) 'Equal Chances for Human Development', set out in the Annex 3.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2023-2024 is set at EUR 112 300 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.020122 of the general budget of the Union: EUR 112 300 000.

Year N : 97 706 211

Year N+1: 14 593 789

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 year N+1 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 4.4.1 of Annex 1, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.4 and 4.4.5 of Annex 2, and 4.4.4 and 4.4.5 of the Annex 3.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁶ 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, 1.12.2023

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

⁶ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.