



Brussels, 14.11.2024
C(2024) 8114 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 14.11.2024

on the financing of the individual measure in favour of Bangladesh for 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) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, 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(1) and (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the individual measure in favour of Bangladesh for 2024, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which is to constitute the annual work programme, for 2024, in accordance with Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('the Financial Regulation').
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union³.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2021-2027⁴, as amended following the mid-term review⁵, which sets out the following priorities: 1) human capital development, 2) green inclusive development and 3) inclusive governance.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the individual measure to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme 'Asia and the Pacific' are to strengthen investment under the Global Gateway Strategy, as well as to profile it as the European Union's offer that stands for sustainable and trusted connections that work for people and the planet.

¹ OJ L 239, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

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 on the adoption of the National Indicative Programme between the European Union and Bangladesh C(2021)9079 final of 14.12.2021.

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision amending country, multi-country and regional Multiannual Indicative Programmes 2021-2027 for Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Americas and the Caribbean and the Multiannual Indicative Programmes on Civil Society Organisations, Global Challenges and Human Rights and Democracy, C(2024)7502 final of 31.10.2024.

- (5) The action entitled ‘Support to National Social Security Strategy Reforms in Bangladesh’ aims to reduce poverty and inequality by enhancing the effectiveness of social protection systems. This will be achieved through the adoption of digital technologies and the implementation of nationally appropriate, comprehensive and shock-responsive social protection measures that cover the entire life cycle.
- (6) The action entitled ‘Support to Civil Society in Bangladesh’ aims to contribute to a peaceful, just, and inclusive Bangladesh with a vibrant, pluralistic, and independent civil society that enables people to claim their civic and human rights, enhances accountability and transparency of institutions, and defends open and democratic space.
- (7) The action entitled ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Bangladesh - Twinning: Strategic Partnership of Bangladesh’s Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) with EU SAI(s)’ aims to contribute to the development of an effective, efficient and accountable Supreme Audit Institution in Bangladesh at all levels.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c), of the Financial Regulation and Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the actions.
- (9) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regard to persons and entities entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 157(3) of the Financial Regulation. To that end, such persons and entities are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 157(4) of the Financial Regulation⁶ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 157(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.
- (11) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to determine the changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (12) 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 measure

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual measure for the implementation of the individual measure in favour of Bangladesh for 2024, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The individual measure shall include the following actions:

- (a) ‘Support to National Social Security Strategy Reforms in Bangladesh’ set out in Annex I;
- (b) ‘Support to Civil Society in Bangladesh’ set out in Annex II;

⁶ Except for the cases referred to in Article 157(7) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (c) ‘Support Measures – Cooperation Facility for Bangladesh - Twinning: Strategic Partnership of Bangladesh’s Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) with EU SAI(s) set out in Annex III.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2024 is set at EUR 52 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 14.020131 South and East Asia of the general budget of the Union.

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

Article 3
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, where those 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
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 the Annexes I, II and III.

Done at Brussels, 14.11.2024

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission

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