



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 25.2.2015
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 25.2.2015

**on the individual measure in favour of Liberia to be financed from the European
Development Fund Bridging Facility**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 566/2014 of 26 May 2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 617/2007 on the implementation of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) as regards the application of the transition period between the 10th EDF and the 11th EDF until the entry into force of the 11th EDF Internal Agreement¹, and in particular Article 9(1) of its annex,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 567/2014 of 26 May 2014 amending Regulation (EC) No 215/2008 on Financial Regulation applicable to the 10th EDF as regards the application of the transition period between the 10th EDF and the 11th EDF until the entry into force of the 11th EDF Internal Agreement², and in particular Article 26 of its annex,

Whereas:

- (1) The existing general budget support came to an end in 2014. In the context of the Ebola crisis and the future withdrawal of the United Nations peace keeping operations, it is urgent to ensure additional funds to the Government of Liberia even if the 11th EDF National Indicative Programme has not been signed yet.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the measure to be financed under the EDF Bridging Facility³ aim at contributing to the implementation of the Liberia Agenda for Transformation, to wealth creation and inclusive economic growth.
- (3) The envisaged maximum amount of the EU contribution to the above mentioned objectives is EUR 45 000 000. The EDF Bridging Facility will finance an initial amount of EUR 34 000 000. The remaining amount will be provided subject to an amendment to the current financing decision.
- (4) The Action entitled "State Building Contract Liberia" is a budget support operation and aims at improving economic governance, financial capability of government to ensure macroeconomic stability, especially in 2015 in the context of the Ebola crisis and improve efficiency and accountability in the provision of vital state functions and services notably in the area of justice and security.
- (5) 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 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

¹ OJ L 157, 27.5.2014, p. 35.

² OJ L 157, 27.5.2014, p. 52.

³ Council Decision No 2013/759/EU of 12 December 2013 regarding transitional EDF management measures from 1 January 2014 until the entry into force of the 11th European Development Fund, OJ L 335, 14.12.2013, p. 48.

the Union⁴ applicable by virtue of Article 26 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 567/2014.

- (6) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entity identified 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 responsible authorising officer needs to ensure that these entities guarantee 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.
- (7) 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 EDF BF, applicable by virtue of Articles 29(1) of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 567/2014.
- (8) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the EDF European Development Fund Committee set up by Article 8 of the Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the financing of Community aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2008 to 2013 in accordance with the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement and on the allocation of financial assistance for the OCTs to which Part Four of the EC Treaty applies⁵.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The individual measure in favour of Liberia, as set out in the Annex, is approved.

The measure shall include the following action:

- Annex: 'State-building Contract Liberia'.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the measure referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 34 000 000 to be financed from the EDF Bridging Facility. 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 Annex, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement.

⁴ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

⁵ OJ L 247, 9.9.2006, p. 32.

The section “Implementation Issues” of the Annex referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution referred to in 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 responsible authorising officer may adopt the non-substantial changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 25.2.2015

For the Commission
Neven Mimica
Member of the Commission

