



Brussels, 11.3.2020
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 11.3.2020

**on the financing of a pilot project for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for 2019 to be
financed from the general budget of the Union**

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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 Articles 58(2)(a) and 110(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of a pilot project for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for 2019, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 lays down 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 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union² (TFEU).
- (3) Under Article 58(2)(a) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, appropriations for pilot projects of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness may be implemented without a basic act provided the actions which they are intended to finance fall within the competences of the Union.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014, the project should be implemented under indirect management.
- (5) The Commission must 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 under indirect management pursuant to Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (6) To this end, these entities and persons will be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046³ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² www.sanctionsmap.eu. Please 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.

³ With the exception of the cases referred to in Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide not to require an ex-ante assessment.

- (7) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (8) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the programme, changes should be permitted which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The project

The Decision on the financing of a pilot project for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for 2019 to be financed from the general budget of the Union, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The project comprises the following action:

- ‘Extension of universal health cover in Mauritania’, as set out in the Annex.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for implementing the pilot project is set at EUR 1 195 000, to be financed from the appropriations entered under the following budget line of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) Budget line 21 02 77 35: EUR 1 195 000.

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

Article 3
Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of actions under indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 5.4.1 of the Annex.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, cumulated changes⁴ to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, or extensions of the implementation period, shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature or objectives of the actions.

⁴ These changes may come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

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, 11.3.2020

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission