



Brussels, 14.11.2023
C(2023) 7829 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 14.11.2023

on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Namibia for 2023

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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 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) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Namibia for 2023, it is necessary to adopt a annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2023. 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 actions provided for in this Decision contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme⁴ for the period 2021- 2027, which sets out the following priorities: (i) Foundational skills – Education, (ii) Inclusive Green Growth and (iii) Good Governance and Gender Equality.
- (5) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme 'Sub-Saharan Africa' are (i) to contribute to an increased share of renewable energies in the Namibian energy mix that will facilitate a

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 of 14.12.2021 adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Republic of Namibia for the period 2021-2027, C(2021) 9055 final.

stronger and greener economic recovery and (ii) to strengthen Civil Society Organisations' (CSO) participation, engagement and advocacy capacity in the definition and implementation of the country's development agenda with a special focus on inclusive green growth and governance.

- (6) The action entitled 'Accelerating the energy transition in Namibia' aims to: (i) increase sustainable energy generation and access; (ii) support development of green hydrogen and synthetic fuels value chain and (iii) equip formal and informal Namibian workers, including women and youth, with the relevant skills and qualifications necessary to participate in the green hydrogen and renewable energy industries. The Commission should acknowledge and accept contributions from other donors in accordance with Article 21(2) of the Financial Regulation, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement. Where such contributions are not denominated in euro, a reasonable estimate of conversion should be made.
- (7) The action entitled 'Support Measures for Civil Society' aims to: (i) strengthen CSO capacities in promoting policy advocacy, transparency, accountability and participatory democracy in the areas of green growth, anti-corruption, environmental, social governance and labour standards and gender mainstreaming; (ii) strengthen CSOs' research and advocacy capacities for evidence-based policy analysis and participation in decision-making and (iii) increase citizen participation and engagement opportunities, including of youth and women, in green economy policy development and implementation.
- (8) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (9) Pursuant to NDICI-Global Europe Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (10) 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.

- (11) 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.
- (12) 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.
- (13) 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.

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.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Namibia for 2023, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) ‘Accelerating the energy transition in Namibia’ as set out in Annex 1;
- (b) ‘Support Measures for Civil Society’ as set out in Annex 2.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2023 is set at EUR 6 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union :

– 14.020122;

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 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 4.4.3 of the Annex 1.

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 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 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 5

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annexes. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annexes selected in accordance with point 4.4.1 of the Annex 1.

Done at Brussels, 14.11.2023

For the Commission

Jutta URPIAINEN

Member of the Commission