



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 30.3.2015
C(2015) 2089 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 30.3.2015

**on a Pilot Project for the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the
'Project to improve the provision of care to victims of sexual violence in
the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo' to be financed from the general budget
of the European Union**

COMMISSION DECISION

of 30.3.2015

on a Pilot Project for the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the 'Project to improve the provision of care to victims of sexual violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo' to be financed from the general budget of the European Union

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002¹, and in particular Articles 54(2) and 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for 2009-2013², point 3.3 of which identifies health as a priority. The health programmes under EDF 10 will continue to be implemented in 2015 and 2016.
- (2) Sexual violence is a major problem in the DRC. The scale of the problem is difficult to measure and is undoubtedly underestimated.
- (3) Against a background of insecurity, with fighting continuing in the east of the country, rape has been used as a weapon of war since the start of the war.
- (4) There has been a national strategy to combat gender-based violence since 2003. The European Union makes a contribution of €20 000 000.
- (5) The Government approved a comprehensive strategy to combat sexual violence in 2009 as part of the Stabilisation and Reconstruction Programme for Areas Emerging from Armed Conflict in eastern Congo (STAREC). The European Union contributes to the financing of STAREC through Envelope B of the 10th EDF NIP.
- (6) The European Union also contributes to the fight against sexual violence through its programmes of support to the health care sector, the police, the judiciary and the army, and through its humanitarian activities.
- (7) Despite the existing measures, the accessibility of most victims to quality care, particularly for complications necessitating specialist care, is very poor and sometimes non-existent.
- (8) The measure 'Project to improve the provision of care to victims of sexual violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo' is aimed at improving the quality and availability of health care for the victims of sexual violence in the

¹ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

² C(2008) 3409 of 10.7.2008

eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo; to ensure training for health care professionals in this field and to enhance management of these types of health care.

- (9) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union³.
- (10) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants, the detailed rules on which are set out in Article 128(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 188(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. The work programme is contained in the Annex.
- (11) Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer, provided that the conditions for an exception to a call for proposals in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 are fulfilled.
- (12) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for 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.
- (13) The Commission is required to define the term 'non-substantial change' in the sense of Article 94(4) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The Decision on a Pilot Project for the Democratic Republic of the Congo concerning the 'Project to improve the provision of care to victims of sexual violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo', as set out in the Annex, is approved.

The project shall include the following action:

- Annex: Project to improve the provision of care to victims of sexual violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the Pilot Project referred to in Article 1 is set at €2 000 000 and shall be financed from budget line 21 02 77 13 of the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

³ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

Article 3

Methods of implementation

Section 4, 'Implementation', of the Annex to this Decision sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

The responsible authorising officer may award grants without a call for proposals in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 shall also cover any possible interest due for late payment.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases not exceeding 20 % of the contribution set by 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 use of the contingency reserve shall be taken into account in the ceiling referred to in this Article.

The responsible authorising officer may adopt these non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 30.3.2015

For the Commission

Neven Mimica

Member of the Commission