



Brussels, 18.11.2024
C(2024) 8151 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 18.11.2024

on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Ghana 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 (2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Annual Action Plan in favour of the Republic of Ghana 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) 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.
- (4) 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.
- (5) The actions provided for in this Decision should contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with Commission Communication 'The European Green Deal'⁴ and in the Inter-institutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources⁵.

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 See 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 COM (2019) 640 final of 11 December 2019.

⁵ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

- (6) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme⁶ for the period 2021-2027⁷, as amended following the mid-term review⁸, which sets out the following priorities: “Green growth for jobs”, “Smart and Sustainable cities” and “Good Governance and security”.
- (7) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme ‘Sub-Saharan Africa’ are to support the sustainable development of a selected number of agribusiness value chains, prevent deforestation and enhance biodiversity conservation, contribute to good governance and security, improve public financial management and promote private sector development.
- (8) The action entitled “EU-Ghana Partnership for smart and sustainable cities Phase 2” will increase sustainable, equitable and inclusive access to sanitation services in those six urban areas and strengthen urban resilience to the effects of climate change in Tamale, the Ghanaian north metropolis. Actions on sanitation, hygiene, and urban climate resilience in these urban areas will be used as catalysts for sustainable local economic development, employment, inclusivity, and resilience. 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.
- (9) The action entitled “EU for a Secure Ghana” will contribute to security, conflict prevention, and the fight against violent extremism, terrorism, and transnational organized crime in Ghana. The specific objectives of the action are: i) Support Ghana’s integrated capacity to counter violent extremism and terrorism from a human rights perspective; ii) Strengthen Ghana’s capacity to counter transnational organized crime, including firearms trafficking; iii) Enhance relevant peacebuilding and violence prevention mechanisms and structures across national and traditional authorities, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), including women’s organizations, forcibly displaced populations and their host communities.
- (10) 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 set out in the Annexes 1 and 2.
- (11) 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, and before a contribution agreement can be signed, 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 Regulation and, if necessary, to

⁶ Decision C(2021)9398.

⁷ Commission Implementing Decision on the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Republic of Ghana for the period 2024-2027, C(2021)9398 final of 16.12.2021.

⁸ 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.

appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 157(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 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 Ghana for 2024, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) EU-Ghana Partnership for smart and sustainable cities Phase 2 set out in Annex 1;
- (b) EU for a Secure Ghana set out in Annex 2.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2024 is set at EUR 53 840 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.020120 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
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 points 4.4.1 and 4.4.2 of Annex 1; point 4.4.3, 4.4.4.1 and 4.4.4.2 of Annex 2.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁹ 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 these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

⁹ These changes can 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, 18.11.2024

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission