



Brussels, 1.6.2023  
C(2023) 3712 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 1.6.2023**

**on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Zambia for 2023  
part 1**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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## on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Zambia for 2023 part 1

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),

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 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, 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 480/2009<sup>2</sup>, 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 Zambia for 2023 part 1, it is necessary to adopt an 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 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the National Multiannual Indicative Programme<sup>4</sup> for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities: green partnerships for sustainable recovery, growth and decent jobs, human development and resilience, and fair, inclusive and peaceful society.
- (4) 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 Government of Zambia in delivering quality, efficient, equitable, affordable, and inclusive public services for all Zambians, through improving the quality of education, supporting the local pharmaceutical manufacturing, and improving national procurement processes.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://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.

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Republic of Zambia for the period 2021-2027 C(2021)9057 final of 14.12.2021.

- (5) The action entitled ‘EU-Zambia Finance for Social Reform’ aims to support the Government to carry out critical reforms to improve quality, efficiency, equity affordability and inclusiveness of social services in the education and health sectors.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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.
- (8) 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 Zambia for 2023 part 1, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The annual action plan shall include the following action:

EU-Zambia Finance for Social Reforms, set out in the Annex.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the annual action plan for 2023 – part 1 is set at EUR 60 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union :

– budget line BGUE-B2023-14.020122-C1-INTPA : EUR 60 000 000.

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

*Article 3*  
*Flexibility clause*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes<sup>5</sup> 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).

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<sup>5</sup> 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, 1.6.2023

*For the Commission*  
*Jutta URPILAINEN*  
*Member of the Commission*