



Brussels, 19.1.2020
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 19.1.2020

on the financing of the annual action programme in favour of Uzbekistan for 2020

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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) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action², and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action programme in favour of Uzbekistan for 2020, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for the year 2020. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 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 Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Uzbekistan and the national Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for the period 2014-2020⁴, which prioritises rural development. The priority remains valid following the Mid-term Review of the Multiannual Indicative Programme⁵.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the annual action programme to be financed under the Development Cooperation Instrument⁶ are to contribute to the economic development of Uzbekistan and its integration with the international community.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

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 C(2014)7507 of 21.10.2014 on the adoption of the National Indicative Programme between the European Union and Uzbekistan.

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision C(2018)4741 of 20.7.2018.

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation for the period 2014-2020, OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 44.

- (5) The action entitled ‘EU Budget Support to the Agriculture sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan (BSAU)’ aims to enhance food and nutrition security, and to ensure a sustainable use of natural resources.
- (6) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (7) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the programme, it is appropriate to allow changes that should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (8) The action provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Development Cooperation Instrument Committee established under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 233/2014.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The measure

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual programme for the implementation of the annual action programme in favour of Uzbekistan for 2020, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following action:

- EU Budget Support to the Agriculture sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan (BSAU).

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2020 is set at EUR 40 000 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

budget line 21.020300: EUR 40 000 000.

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2020, following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3
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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, 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, acting in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 19.1.2020

For the Commission
Jutta URPILAINEN
Member of the Commission