



Brussels, 12.11.2013
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 12.11.2013

on the Annual Action Programme 2013 (Part 2) in favour of the Southern Region of the European Neighbourhood, to be financed from the general budget of the European Union

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument¹, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

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 1605/2002² (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Financial Regulation’), and in particular Article 84 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted, under the European Neighbourhood Policy, the Regional Strategy Document (2007-2013) and the Regional Indicative Programme 2011-2013³ for Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, which provides for the following priority areas: supporting common regional institutions, confidence building measures and media development; promoting regional economic integration, investment and regulatory convergence; sustainable development for the Mediterranean; promoting social inclusion and cultural dialogue.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2013 (Part 2) in favour of the Southern Region of the European Neighbourhood Policy are to maintain and support the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean through a financial contribution and to improve access for, and effective participation of, young people in mainstreaming their priorities in legislation and national planning in ENP South countries.
- (3) 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 No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁴ (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Rules of Application’).
- (4) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under joint management (indirect management with an international organisation) to the entities identified in the Annexes of this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a contribution agreement. The responsible authorising officer has ensured that these entities comply with the

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ C(2012) 6074 of 31.8.2012.

⁴ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

conditions of Article 53d of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002⁵ on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁶ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Financial Regulation 1605/2002') and of Articles 35 and 43 of its Implementing Rules.

- (5) It is appropriate to acknowledge that grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer who ensures that the conditions for an exception to a call for proposals according to Article 190 of the Rules of Application are fulfilled. Where the reasons for and potential beneficiaries of such award are known at the moment of the adoption of this Decision, they should be identified therein for reasons of transparency.
- (6) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment under Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of the Rules of Application.
- (7) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application 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').
- (8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the ENPI Committee set up under Article 26 of Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the programme

The Annual Action Programme 2013 (Part 2) in favour of the Southern Region of the European Neighbourhood Policy, comprising the actions identified in the second paragraph, is approved.

The actions, the description of which is set out in the attached Annexes 1 and 2 respectively, are:

- Annex 1: Net-MED Youth.
- Annex 2: EU support for the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean in 2014.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of this programme is set at EUR 12.21 million, to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union for 2013.

⁵ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1. These provisions remain applicable until 31 December 2013 according to Article 212 of the Financial Regulation.

⁶ Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities. OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1. These provisions remain applicable until 31 December 2013 according to Article 212 of the Financial Regulation.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

The budget-implementation tasks under joint management are entrusted to the entities identified in the attached Annexes, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

Section 4 of the Annexes referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of the Rules of Application.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer according to Article 190 of the Rules of Application. Where known at the moment of the adoption of this Decision, the reasons for this as well as the potential beneficiaries shall be identified in the attached Annexes.

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

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or cumulative changes to the allocations for specific actions not exceeding 20% of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 will not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies will 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, 12.11.2013

For the Commission
Štefan FÜLE
Member of the Commission