



Brussels, 5.12.2012
C(2012) 8737 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 5.12.2012

**on the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon to
be financed from the general budget of the European Union**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 5.12.2012

on the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon 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 the Regulation (EC) n°1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)¹, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Lebanon² and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2011-2013³, points 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 of which provide for the following priorities:
 - Support to political reform.
 - Support to social and economic reform.
 - Support to recovery and reinvigoration of the country.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon are to further support the national Lebanese reform agenda in the area of economic recovery through the development of sustainable growth policies leading to job creation, as well as to assist in the reform of public education and the enhancement of social justice. Thus, all projects of the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon aim at contributing to social and economic equity, stability and prosperity. The Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon comprises the following three projects: Stimulating sustainable growth and job opportunities in Lebanon, Promotion of social justice in Lebanon and CLOSER: Community and labour oriented scheme for education reform.
- (3) The present Decision constitutes a Financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget⁴ (hereafter 'the Financial Regulation') and Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1-14.

² C(2007)672 of 27.02.2007.

³ C(2010)1144 of 02.03.2010.

⁴ OJ L 248 of 16.09.2002, p. 1-48.

of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget⁵ (hereafter 'the Implementing Rules').

- (4) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by the present decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of articles 83 of the Financial Regulation and 106(5) of its Implementing Rules.
- (5) The Commission is required to define the term "substantial change" in the meaning of Article 90 (4) of the Implementing Rules to ensure that any substantial change in this Decision shall follow the same procedure as the initial Decision.
- (6) 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

The Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon, constituted by the actions "CLOSER: Community and labour oriented scheme for education reform"(EUR 8 million), "Promotion of social justice in Lebanon" (EUR 12 million) and "Stimulating sustainable growth and job opportunities in Lebanon" (EUR 12 million) the text of which is set out in the attached Annexes, is approved.

Article 2

The maximum contribution of the European Union to the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon is set at EUR 32 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union for 2012.

This maximum contribution shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

Article 3

Cumulated changes of the allocations to the specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution of the European Union shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon. This may include an increase of the maximum contribution of the European Union up to 20%.

⁵ OJ L 357 of 31.12.2002, p. 1-71.

The relevant authorising officer may amend the present Decision to introduce non-substantial changes to the Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 5.12.2012

For the Commission
Štefan Füle
Member of the Commission

ANNEXES

Annual Action Programme 2012 part II in favour of the Republic of Lebanon

Annex 1: action fiche CLOSER: Community and labour oriented scheme for education reform

Annex 2: action fiche Promotion of social justice in Lebanon

Annex 3: action fiche Stimulating sustainable growth and job opportunities in Lebanon