



Brussels, 26.10.2022
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 26.10.2022

on the financing of the special measure in favour of Syria for 2022

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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) 2021/947² of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe and amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009, and in particular Article 23(4).

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the special measure in favour of Syria for 2022, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing Decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2022. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance should comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) In light of the ongoing repression by the regime and restrictive measures taken by the Council of the European Union, the Commission has suspended its cooperation with the Syrian Government in May 2011. Since then, normal programming for Syria has not been possible due to the ongoing conflict. Direct support to the affected population in Syria however has been maintained through various special measures complementary to humanitarian assistance in sectors such as education, livelihoods and civil society. Taking into account the crisis situation and the need to respond to the increasing needs, a declaration of crisis was issued in February 2012. Since then, the declaration has been annually extended due to the deteriorating situation. The most recent prolongation was issued in July 2022 and will be valid until June 2023. This

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu Please 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 between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

special measure falls under the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council ‘Elements for an EU strategy for Syria’⁴.

- (4) The objectives pursued by the annual special measure to be financed under the Neighbourhood geographic programme of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should support the resilience and early recovery needs of the Syrian population through community-driven interventions aimed at the provision of key services while supporting the restoration and maintenance of social cohesion at the local level.
- (5) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the measure.
- (6) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.
To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation⁵ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (7) 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.
- (8) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) The measure 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 measure

The annual financing Decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the special measure in favour of Syria for 2022, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall consist of the action set out in the Annex.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2022 is set at EUR 46 000 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.020110 of the general budget of the Union.

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

⁴ Joint communication of the European Commission and the High Representative to the European Parliament and the Council ‘‘Elements for an EU strategy for Syria’’. JOIN (2017)11 of 14/03/2017.

⁵ Except for the cases referred to in Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

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 Annexe, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in points 4.3.3 of the Annexe.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated reassignments⁶ of funds between actions contained in an action plan not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, provided 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, 26.10.2022

For the Commission

Olivér VÁRHELYI

Member of the Commission

⁶ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.