

Brussels, 13.7.2011 C(2011) 4966 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.7.2011

on the Annual Action Programme 2011 in favour of Georgia to be financed under Article 19 08 01 03 of 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 Instrument (ENPI)¹, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the ENPI Strategy Paper 2007-2013² for Georgia and the Multiannual National Indicative Programme for the period 2011-2013³, point 2.3 of which provides for the following priorities: democratic development, rule of law, good governance; trade and investment, regulatory alignment and reform; regional development, sustainable economic and social development, poverty reduction; support for peaceful settlement of conflicts.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2011, as set out in the four attached annexes, are to strengthen the rule of law and human rights protection in Georgia by supporting reform in the criminal justice sector; to provide durable housing solutions to internally displaced persons and to help raise them and their host communities out of extreme poverty; to support Georgia in the preparation and implementation of new contractual relations with the EU (Association Agreement, Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement, Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreement); and to promote the general welfare of the populations residing in Abkhazia, Georgia and adjacent areas in Western Georgia that suffer from the consequences of conflict.
- (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 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget⁵ (hereafter 'the Implementing Rules').

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OJEU L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1

² C(2007)672

³ C(2010)1144

OJ L 248 of 16.09.2002, p. 1.

OJ L 357 of 31.12.2002, p.1.

- (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 2011 in favour of Georgia, constituted by the actions "Support to the Criminal Justice Sector", "Support to conflict affected/displaced population and host communities programme", "Framework Programme in support of EU-Georgia agreements" and "Support to conflict settlement", 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 is set at EUR 50.73 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 03 of the general budget of the European Union for 2011.

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. This may include an increase of the maximum contribution of the European Union up to 20%.

The relevant authorising officer may amend the present Decision to introduce non substantial changes to the Annual Action Programme in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 13.7.2011

For the Commission Štefan Füle Member of the Commission

<u>ANNEXES</u> <u>Annual Action Programme 2011 Georgia</u>

Annex 1: Action fiche (Support to the Criminal Justice Sector)

Annex 2: Action fiche (Support to conflict affected/displaced population and host communities programme)

Annex 3: Action fiche (Framework Programme in support of EU-Georgia agreements)

Annex 4: Action Fiche (Support to conflict settlement)