



Brussels, 15.12.2022  
C(2022) 9282 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 15.12.2022**

**on the financing of the first individual measure for Tunisia for 2022**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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## on the financing of the first individual measure for Tunisia for 2022

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046<sup>1</sup> 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 966/2012, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947<sup>2</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009, and in particular Article 23(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the actions of the individual measure for Tunisia, an annual financing decision must be adopted, 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 planned assistance is to comply strictly with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The measures contribute to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming, in line with the European Green Deal<sup>4</sup> and the Interinstitutional Agreement.
- (4) The EU-Tunisia strategic priorities for the period 2018-2020 have been extended<sup>5</sup> with the following priorities: (i) inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development, (ii) democracy, good governance and human rights, (iii) bringing peoples together, mobility and migration, and (iv) security and the fight against terrorism. An EU-Tunisia Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP) has been drawn up for the period 2021-2027, which may be adopted on the basis of the extended strategic priorities or new strategic priorities. The individual measures which are the subject of

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). It should be noted that the sanctions map is an IT tool listing the sanctions regimes. The sanctions stem from legal acts published in the *Official Journal* (OJ). In case of discrepancy the OJ prevails.

<sup>4</sup> COM(2019) 640 final, 11.12.2019.

<sup>5</sup> Council Decision (EU) 2021/1856 of 18 October 2021 on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union as regards the extension of the validity of the EU-Tunisia strategic priorities until new updated strategic priorities are adopted by the Association Council.

this Decision shall be adopted before the adoption of the MIP, and may be amended if necessary to align with the future MIP. These individual measures shall be adopted in order to continue to provide direct support to the Tunisian people in a critical socio-economic context.

- (5) The objectives of the individual measure to be financed under Regulation (EU) 2021/947 ('Neighbourhood' geographical programme) consist of strengthening cooperation between the EU and Tunisia to continue to promote inclusive and sustainable development in Tunisia, and to improve Tunisia's sustainable food security and sovereignty within the framework of the Food and Resilience Facility for the Southern Neighbourhood<sup>6</sup>.
- (6) The measure entitled 'Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF)' is aimed at promoting inclusive and sustainable development in Tunisia.
- (7) The measure entitled 'Programme to support sustainable food security in Tunisia (PASAT)' is aimed at improving sustainable food security and sovereignty in Tunisia.
- (8) In accordance with Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 and Article 62(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation, the measure should be implemented through indirect management.
- (9) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regard to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of EU funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.
- (10) 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 Regulation<sup>7</sup> and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (11) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (12) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, changes not considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation should be allowed.
- (13) 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 of 9 June 2021.

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<sup>6</sup> [The Commission acts in support of food security and resilience in the Southern Neighbourhood | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> Except in the cases referred to in Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide not to require an ex-ante assessment.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*  
*The measure*

The annual financing Decision, which constitutes the annual work programme for the implementation of the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the individual measure in favour of Tunisia for 2022, as set out in the annexes, is adopted.

The measure shall include the following actions:

- Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF), as set out in Annex I;
- Programme to support sustainable food security in Tunisia (PASAT), as set out in Annex II.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2022 is set at EUR 38 000 000, to 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.

*Article 3*  
*Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons*

The implementation of the actions carried out under indirect management, as set out in the Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.3 of Annex I and in point 4.3.1 of Annex II.

*Article 4*  
*Flexibility clause*

Increases<sup>8</sup> or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000, not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, or extensions of the implementation period, shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, provided that they do not significantly affect the actions' nature or objectives.

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.

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<sup>8</sup> These changes may come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

*Article 5*  
*Public procurement*

The launch of an invitation to tender under a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision shall be authorised from the date set out in point 4.3.2 of Annex I.

Done at Brussels, 15.12.2022

*For the Commission*  
*Olivér VÁRHELYI*  
*Member of the Commission*