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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 15.12.2022**

**on the financing of a support measure in favour of the Syria crisis response for 2022-  
2023**

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## on the financing of a support measure in favour of the Syria crisis response for 2022-2023

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 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 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009, and in particular Article 24(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of a support measure in favour of the Syria crisis response, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing Decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2022-2023. 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 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) In light of the ongoing repression by the regime and EU restrictive measures, 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 support measure is in line

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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) 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.

with the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council ‘Elements for an EU strategy for Syria’<sup>4</sup>.

- (4) The objectives pursued by the multiannual support measure to be financed under the Neighbourhood geographic programme of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should finance measures and activities that are needed for the achievement of the Union’s political and financial commitment to support the Syrian people and countries in Syria’s neighbourhood affected by the crisis.
- (5) The support measure will finance the administrative, technical and logistical support associated with the preparation, consultation, coordination, follow-up, communication and other activities necessary for the successful organisation of the Brussels conferences and related processes.
- (6) In accordance with Article 43 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, the action is of a global, trans-regional or regional nature, fostering regional cooperation with countries hosting refugees from Syria (Jordan, Lebanon, Türkiye, Egypt and Iraq). The action's objective and design fulfil the criteria for Official Development Assistance established by the OECD/DAC, as per the requirements of Article 3(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, contributing to the sustainable development of partner countries. Due to the project's nature and the importance to ensure complete regional coverage, the eligibility of the action extends exceptionally to countries hosting refugees from Syria (Jordan, Lebanon, Türkiye, Egypt and Iraq) as their participation constitutes a substantial element to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Union financing or to foster regional or trans-regional cooperation.
- (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 does not fall within the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The European Parliament and the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should be informed of this decision within one month of its adoption.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The measure*

The multiannual financing Decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of the support measure in favour of the Syria crisis response, as set out in the annex, is adopted.

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

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<sup>4</sup> 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.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2022-2023 is set at EUR 1 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.200405-C1-NEAR of the general budget of the Union (of which EUR 442 379 for 2022 and EUR 558 101 for 2023).

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2023 as adopted by the budgetary authority.

*Article 3*  
*Flexibility clause*

Increases<sup>5</sup> or decreases of up to EUR 10 million and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, considering each financial year separately, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions 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 that 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, 15.12.2022

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

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<sup>5</sup> These changes can come from external assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing Decision.