



Brussels, 14.10.2015
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 14.10.2015

**on the Annual Action Programme 2015 and Annual Action Programme 2016 part 1 in
favour of Jordan to be financed from 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 (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action¹ and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Commission has adopted the Single Support Framework for Jordan for the period 2014-2017³, points 2 and 3 of which provide for the following priorities: “Employment and Private Sector Development” and “Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency”.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programmes to be financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument⁴ are to: i) increase incomes and employment, promote women and youth social economic inclusion and facilitate economic development in disadvantaged regions; ii) contribute to the development and implementation of effective policies that would help Jordan reach its renewable energy and energy efficiency targets.
- (3) The Action entitled “EU Support to the Private Sector Development in Jordan” aims at increasing the productivity and competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises and domestic and foreign investment, through a dual approach, i.e. budget support to the government to create an enabling business environment and project support and technical assistance to business services for improving their ability to deliver adequate services to Jordanian companies.
- (4) The Action entitled “Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programme in Jordan (REEE II)” aims at complementing the relevant institutional, legislative and fiscal reforms, creating an enabling environment to mobilise public and private actors, in order to progress towards the goals of 10% renewable energy and 20% of energy savings by 2020 (principally through budget support incentives).

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ C(2014) 5130.

⁴ Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument (OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 27).

- (5) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012⁵.
- (6) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants, the detailed rules on which are set out in Article 128(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 188(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. The work programme is constituted by the Annex 1 (section 5.4.1) and Annex 2 (section 5.4.1)
- (7) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that these entities guarantee a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union equivalent to that required when the Commission manages Union funds. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is currently undergoing the assessment under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012. In anticipation of the results of this review, the authorising officer responsible deems that, based on the entity's positive assessment under Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002⁶ and on the long-standing and problem-free cooperation with it, budget-implementation tasks can be entrusted to this entity.
- (8) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, the Commission should define changes to this Decision which are not substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (10) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by Article 15 of the financing instrument referred to in recital 2,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The measure constituted by the Annual Action Programme 2015 and Annual Action Programme 2016 part 1 in favour of Jordan to be financed from the general budget of the European Union, as set out in the Annexes, is approved.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Annex 1: EU Support to the Private Sector Development in Jordan;
- Annex 2: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programme in Jordan (REEE II).

⁵ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

⁶ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1).

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the measure referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 135,000,000 and shall be financed for an amount of EUR 90,000,000 from budget line 21.030102 of the general budget of the European Union for 2015 and for an amount of EUR 45,000,000 from budget line 21.030102 of the general budget of the European Union for 2016.

The financial contribution 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 draft budget for 2016 after the adoption of the budget for that financial year or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entity identified in the attached Annex 2, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement.

The section “Implementation” of the Annexes to this Decision sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution set by the first paragraph of Article 2, 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 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling set by this Article.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 14.10.2015

For the Commission

Johannes HAHN

Member of the Commission