



Brussels, 31.3.2022
C(2022) 1857 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 31.3.2022

**establishing a model for a financial framework partnership agreement between the
Commission and the government of an IPA III beneficiary**

COMMISSION DECISION

of 31.3.2022

establishing a model for a financial framework partnership agreement between the Commission and the government of an IPA III beneficiary

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 966/2012 ('the Financial Regulation')¹, and in particular Article 130(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 September 2021 establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance ('IPA III')², and in particular Article 16 thereof,

Having regard to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2236 of 15 December 2021 on the specific rules for implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)³, and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 5 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2236, the Commission and each of the beneficiaries listed in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 ('IPA III beneficiary') are to conclude financial framework partnership agreements setting out specific arrangements for the management, control, supervision, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and audit of IPA III assistance committing the IPA III beneficiary to transpose into its legal order the relevant Union regulatory requirements. The financial framework partnership agreement may be complemented by sectoral agreements setting out specific provisions for the management and implementation of IPA III assistance in specific policy areas or programmes.
- (2) In view of the importance of financial framework partnership agreements for the implementation of IPA III assistance, it is appropriate to provide for a model for such agreements.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 330, 20.9.2021, p. 1.

³ OJ L 450, 16.12.2021, p. 10

- (3) The model financial framework partnership agreement should comply with the provisions laid down in the Financial Regulation, Regulation (EU) 2021/947⁴ and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2236.
- (4) In order to allow for flexibility in the model financial framework partnership agreement, it is appropriate to allow changes which would not be considered substantive.
- (5) The signature of a financial framework partnership agreement by the Commission constitutes an act of budget implementation within the meaning of the Financial Regulation and should take place at the appropriate level,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The model for a financial framework partnership agreement set out in the Annex is hereby adopted.

It shall be used for all financial framework partnership agreements to be concluded between the Commission and the government of an IPA III beneficiary concerning specific arrangements for implementation of Union financial assistance under IPA III.

The responsible authorising officer shall be entitled to introduce, where appropriate, non-substantive changes to the model, provided that these do not alter the set-up of the structures and authorities of the IPA III beneficiary and their functions and responsibilities as well as the related control mechanisms.

Article 2

The Director-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations is hereby authorised to sign financial framework partnership agreements with IPA III beneficiaries on behalf of the Commission. This task may be subdelegated to the level of Director in accordance with Article 7 of Commission Decision C(2018) 5120.

Done at Brussels, 31.3.2022

For the Commission
Olivér VÁRHELYI
Member of the Commission

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2021/947 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 446/2014/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 (OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 1).