COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 26.7.2024

on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Moldova for 2024 – part 1
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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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


Whereas:

(1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Moldova for 2024 – part 1, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing Decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2024.

(2) The envisaged assistance should comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.

(3) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme for Moldova⁴ for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities under the general heading of resilience: a resilient, sustainable and integrated economy; accountable institutions, the rule of law and security; environment and climate resilience; a resilient digital transformation; and resilient, fair and inclusive societies. These priorities are fully aligned with the Joint Communication on ‘Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020’⁵.

(4) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Neighbourhood geographic programme of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 should support

³ 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.
⁴ Commission Implementing Decision C(2022)4323 of 29/06/2022 adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Republic of Moldova for the period 2021-2027.
⁵ JOIN(2020) 7 final of 18/03/2020 – Joint Communication on ‘Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020’
the Moldovan authorities in developing accountable and resilience governance systems to deliver on reforms, in implementing the Association Agreement including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) and in transposing and implementing the EU acquis.

(5) The action entitled ‘Support for EU Integration’ aims to support the Moldovan authorities in building accountable and resilient governance systems for European integration, including public finance management, justice and migration governance.

(6) The objective and design of the action fulfil the criteria for Official Development Assistance established by the OECD/DAC, as per the requirements of Article 3(4) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, contributing to the sustainable development of partner countries and the implementation of the 2030 agenda by notably supporting public sector policy and administrative management in Moldova. The countries benefiting from the action which are included in the list of ODA recipients, are identified in the respective action document.

(7) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c) of the Financial Regulation, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action plan.

(8) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation.

(9) To that 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 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.

(10) 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.

(11) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to determine the changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.

(12) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the NDICI-GE Neighbourhood Committee.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The annual financing Decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Moldova for 2024 – part 1, as set out in the annex, is adopted.

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

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6 Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide not to require an ex-ante assessment.
Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2024 is set at EUR 25 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.020111 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 by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, 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 the Annex.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in Article 2, first paragraph, 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 for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, 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. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 26.7.2024

For the Commission
Olivér VÁRHELYI
Member of the Commission

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Footnote: These changes can come from external assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing Decision.