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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 17.12.2010
C(2010) 9066 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 17.12.2010

**on the Annual Action Programme 2010 in favour of the Arab Republic of Syria to be
financed under Article 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union**

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on the Annual Action Programme 2010 in favour of the Arab Republic of Syria to be financed under Article 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Syria and the Multi-annual Indicative Programme for the period 2007-2010¹, in which point n°3 mentions support to economic reforms, point n°4 support to social reforms and point n°5 support for environment and renewable energies.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the 2010 Action Programme are to support Syria's reform efforts in the areas of judiciary, competitiveness of industry and the vocational education and training system. Further, a support programme in Syria for the Association Agreement is envisaged.
- (3) The present Decision constitutes a Financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget² (hereafter 'the Financial Regulation') and Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget³ (hereafter 'the Implementing Rules').
- (4) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by the present Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of articles 83 of the Financial Regulation and 106(5) of its Implementing Rules.
- (5) The Commission is required to define the term “substantial change” in the meaning of Article 90 (4) of the Implementing Rules to ensure that any substantial change in this Decision shall follow the same procedure as the initial Decision.

¹ C(2007)672 of 27th February 2007 and modified by C(2008) 3576 of 24th July 2008

² OJ L 248 of 16.09.2002, p. 1.

³ OJ L 357 of 31.12.2002, p.1.

- (6) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the ENPI Committee set up under Article 26 of Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Annual Action Programme in favour of the Arab Republic of Syria, constituted by the actions “Reforming and modernising the judiciary”, “Support to the Association Agreement”, “Industry for growth and employment”, “Upgrading the vocational education and training system and promoting in-service training”, “Baniyas water and wastewater Management” and “Municipal and environmental infrastructure”, the text of which is set out in the attached Annexes, is approved.

Article 2

The maximum contribution of the European Union to the 2010 Action Programme is set at EUR 50 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union for 2010.

This maximum contribution shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

Article 3

Cumulated changes of the allocations to the specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution of the European Union shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the 2010 Action Programme. This may include an increase of the maximum contribution of the European Union up to 20%.

The relevant authorising officer may amend the present Decision to introduce non substantial changes to the 2010 Action Programme in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 17.12.2010

For the Commission
Štefan FÜLE
Member of the Commission

ANNEXES
Annual Action Programme Syria 2010

Annex 1: Reforming and modernising the judiciary

Annex 2: Support to the Association Agreement

Annex 3: Industry for growth and employment

Annex 4: Upgrading the vocational education and training system and promoting in-service training

Annex 5: Baniyas water and wastewater Management

Annex 6: Municipal and environmental infrastructure