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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 16.10.2015**

**on the Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of the Republic of Moldova to be  
financed from the general budget of the European Union**

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**on the Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of the Republic of Moldova to be financed from 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 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 action<sup>1</sup>, 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 1605/2002<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Single Support Framework (SSF) for EU support to the Republic of Moldova for the period 2014-2017<sup>3</sup>. In line with the SSF, this Implementing Decision falls under the focal sectors of public administration reform as well as police reform and border management. It also contains support for capacity development and institution building and in favour of civil society as foreseen in the SSF.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)<sup>4</sup> are to support the public administration and police reform in the Republic of Moldova as well as provide complementary support in favour of civil society and capacity development and institution building. The Annual Action Programme contains four actions.
- (3) The action entitled "Support to Public Administration Reform (PAR)" aims to contribute to enhance the institutional and human resource capacity of the central and local public administrations to elaborate and implement evidence based policy and to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of high quality public services. The action will be implemented under direct management through service and supply contracts. Management of the component "Moldova's participation in the Danube Transnational Programme" will be delegated to Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Commission (through a cross-sub delegation) and implemented under shared management.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> C(2014) 8302, 31.10.2014

<sup>4</sup> 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).

- (4) The action entitled "Support to Police Reform" aims to assist Moldova in ensuring the rule of law, enhancement of public order and security and protection of human rights through development of an accessible, accountable, efficient, transparent and professional police force. The action will be implemented under direct management through a budget support sector reform contract, grants and service contracts.
- (5) The action entitled "Civil Society Facility (Moldova)" aims to contribute to the development of civil society in becoming a stronger actor, including in actively participating in decision and-policy making and implementation processes of the EU-Moldova AA with the aim to enhance domestic political and financial transparency and accountability. The action will be implemented under direct management through grants and service contracts.
- (6) The action entitled "Technical Cooperation Facility" aims to increase the capacities of the Government of Moldova and of key national institutions to implement the EU-Moldova Association Agenda in five priority areas: environment, justice, energy, transport and education. The action will be implemented under direct management through grants and service contracts.
- (7) 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 1268/2012<sup>5</sup>.
- (8) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants the detailed rules of 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 2 (sections 5.4.1 and 5.4.2), Annex 3 (section 5.3.1), Annex 4 (section 5.3.1).
- (9) 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.
- (10) 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.
- (11) 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 ENI Regulation.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

#### **Adoption of the measure**

The Annual Action Programme 2015 in favour of the Republic of Moldova, as set out in the Annexes, is approved.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Annex 1: Support to Public Administration Reform (PAR);

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<sup>5</sup> 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).

- Annex 2: Support to Police Reform;
- Annex 3: Civil Society Facility (Moldova);
- Annex 4: Technical Cooperation Facility.

#### *Article 2*

##### **Financial contribution**

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 90 million and shall be financed from:

- budget line 21 03 02 01: EUR 85 million
- budget line 21 03 02 02: EUR 5 million
- of the general budget of the European Union for 2015.

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

#### *Article 3*

##### **Implementation modalities**

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

Done at Brussels, 16.10.2015

*For the Commission*  
*Johannes HAHN*  
*Member of the Commission*