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COMMISSION DECISION

of

Adopting a National programme for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia under the IPA -Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2008

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof.

Whereas

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes, which can be established by country and by component, or, as appropriate, by group of countries or by theme. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council established for all candidate and potential candidate countries an Accession Partnership or a European Partnership. The Commission has adopted on 5 September 2008 a multi-annual indicative planning document 2008-2010 for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia which present(s) indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to the/all country/ies concerned².
- (4) Therefore, and having regard to the project proposals submitted by the countries concerned, the National programme for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia under the IPA -Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2008 aims at providing assistance for Political criteria, Socio-Economic criteria, Ability to assume the obligations of EU membership and Support to programming and participation in Community Programmes and Agencies.
- (5) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002³ (hereafter: “Implementing Rules”) and constitutes thus a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of

¹ OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

² C(2008)4705

³ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁴ (hereafter: “Financial Regulation”).

- (6) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The National programme for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia under the IPA - Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2008, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by centralised management.

It shall be implemented by means of a Financing Agreement to be concluded between the Commission and the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in conformity with the Framework Agreement concluded between the same parties on 29th of October 2007, ratified in the National Assembly on 30th of January 2008.

Article 2

The maximum amount of Community contribution shall be **EUR 37,122,001** to be financed through Budget line 22.020100 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2008.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

⁴ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.