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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 8.7.2011 C(2011) 4860 final

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

## of 8.7.2011

amending Commission Decision C(2010)9371, adopting the "Cross-border programme the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia-Kosovo" and Commission Decision C(2010)9372, adopting the "Cross-border programme Albania-Kosovo" under the IPA-Cross-border Co-operation component, for the years 2010-2011

\* Under USNCR 1244/1999.

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#### THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 14(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for preaccession assistance to candidates and potential candidates.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes. 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) In accordance with Article 91 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 establishing an instrument for pre–accession assistance  $(IPA)^2$  (hereinafter referred to as the "IPA Implementing Regulation"), the Commission adopted by Commission Decisions  $C(2010)9371^3$  the financing proposal of the "Cross-border programme the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia-Kosovo" and  $C(2010)9372^4$  the financing proposal of the "Cross-border Co-operation component, for the years 2010-2011.
- (4) These Decisions met 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 1605/2002 (hereafter: "Implementing Rules") and constitute thus Financing Decisions within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial

<sup>\*</sup> Under USNCR 1244/1999.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OJ L 170, 29.6.2007, p.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> COM(2010)9371 of 17 December 2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> COM(2010)9372 of 17 December 2010.

Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union (hereafter: "Financial Regulation").

- (5) This amendment is required to be in conformity with the agreement reached within the IPA Management Committee of 10 December 2010 on the reference to the IPA Framework Agreement for Kosovo. Due to an administrative error the agreement reached was not reflected in the Commission Decisions for the two cross-border programmes for Kosovo with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and with Albania. This amendment aims to rectify this error.
- (6) This decision will be notified to the IPA Committee<sup>5</sup>.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

# Sole Article

1. The Commission Decision C(2010)9371 of 17 December 2010 is amended as follows:

- the last paragraph of Article 1 is replaced by the following:

"The programme corresponding to budget years 2010 and 2011 shall be implemented by means of annual Financing Agreements to be concluded between the Commission and each of the beneficiaries in conformity with the Framework Agreements concluded on 30 October 2007 for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and on 19 December 2007 for Kosovo. Each such Financing Agreement shall cover the European Union contribution for each beneficiary and the year concerned."

2. The Commission Decision C(2010)9372 of 17 December 2010 is amended as follows:

- the last paragraph of Article 1 is replaced by the following:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Recalling the Council Conclusions of 18 February 2008, Member States declare that the adoptions of the "Cross-Border programme the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia-Kosovo\*" and the "Cross-Border programme Albania-Kosovo" under the IPA-Cross-border Co-operation component for the years 2010–2011 do not prejudge the position of each individual Member State on the status of Kosovo, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.

"The programme corresponding to budget years 2010 and 2011 shall be implemented by means of annual Financing Agreements to be concluded between the Commission and each of the beneficiaries in conformity with the Framework Agreements concluded on 18 October 2007 for Albania and on 19 December 2007 for Kosovo. Each such Financing Agreement shall cover the European Union contribution for each beneficiary and the year concerned."

Done at Brussels, 8.7.2011

For the Commission, Štefan FÜLE Member of the Commission

> CERTIFIED COPY For the Secretary - General

Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU Director of the Registry