



Brussels, 16.12.2021  
C(2021) 9553 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 16.12.2021**

**on the financing of the individual measure in favour of Azerbaijan for 2021**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 16.12.2021

**on the financing of the individual measure in favour of Azerbaijan for 2021**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947<sup>2</sup> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe and amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009, and in particular Article 23(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the financing of the individual measure in favour of Azerbaijan for 2021, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2021. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The action provided for in this Decision contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in line with the European Green Deal<sup>4</sup> and the inter-institutional agreement.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the individual measure to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme 'Neighbourhood' are to support Azerbaijan towards resilience and socio-economic recovery, with a particular focus on inclusive and sustainable growth in rural areas and on building a more resilient health system.
- (5) It is justified to adopt an individual measure pursuant to Article 23(3) of Regulation (EU) No 2021/947 as the measure is needed to immediately support the health sector, build resilience of the public health system as well as target the needs of the vulnerable population and the overall socio-economic recovery of the country severely affected

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://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.

<sup>4</sup> COM(2019) 640 final, 11.12.2019.

by the pandemic. No other means of financing this measure are available at present. The Commission aims at adopting in the first half of 2022 the Multiannual Indicative Programme for Azerbaijan for the period 2021-2027, which will be aligned with the EU-Azerbaijan Partnership Priorities<sup>5</sup> extended until 2024.

- (6) The action entitled “EU Resilience Facility for Azerbaijan” aims at supporting Azerbaijan towards resilience and socio-economic recovery. The objectives pursued by this action are to promote sustainable regional and rural development through inclusive and sustainable growth for improved resilience and livelihoods in less developed regions and to build Health System Resilience in Azerbaijan.
- (7) Pursuant to Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action.
- (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 this 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) thereof before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (10) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interests 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 measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (12) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The measure*

The annual financing Decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the individual measure in favour of Azerbaijan for 2021, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the action: EU Resilience Facility for Azerbaijan set out in the Annex.

*Article 2*  
*Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2021 is set at EUR 13 500 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 14.020111 of the general budget of the Union.

---

<sup>5</sup> ST 13432/21 (NLA) and ST 13433/21 (LD)

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph may also cover interests 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 4.3.1 of the Annex.

### *Article 4*

#### *Flexibility clause*

Increases<sup>6</sup> or decreases of up to EUR 10 million and not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated reassignments of funds between actions contained in the measure not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where 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 acting in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 16.12.2021

*For the Commission*

*Olivér VÁRHELYI*

*Member of the Commission*

---

<sup>6</sup> These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.