



Brussels, 10.10.2014
C(2014) 7235 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 10.10.2014

**on the Umbrella Programme 2014 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon to be financed
from the general budget of the European Union**

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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 action¹ and in particular Article 2 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 1605/2002², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Single Strategic Framework in favour of the Republic of Lebanon for the period 2014-2016³, point 3 of which provides for the following priorities: Justice and Security System Reform, Reinforcing social cohesion, promoting economic development and protecting vulnerable groups and Promotion of sustainable and transparent management of energy and natural resources.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Umbrella Programme 2014 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon to be financed under Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument⁴ is to contribute to the provision of waste water services for vulnerable populations in Lebanon and support the Government's strategic objective of increasing the present wastewater collection (60%) and treatment (8%) to 95% collection and treatment by 2020.
- (3) Action entitled "Provision of waste water services for vulnerable populations in Lebanon" has, as the specific objective to increase the treatment capacity of existing waste water treatment plants by building new sewage systems, thereby increasing the flow of wastewater being conveyed to these existing plants. Two main results are expected: i) The Koura-Qalamoun waste water networks are completed and connected to the Tripoli waste water treatment plant and ii) The sewage coverage is improved around existing and operating small size wastewater treatment plants in the Bekaa valley
- (4) To facilitate the implementation of the incentive-based approach set forth in the European Neighbourhood Instrument, the Commission establishes multi-country

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ C(2014) 5132 of 24.07.2014.

⁴ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 27.

umbrella programmes that supplement the indicative financial allocations for country programmes. In 2014, Lebanon is granted EUR 15 million through this mechanism that offers incentives to countries that make progress towards deep and sustainable democracy; this allocation contributes to the funding of the present measure in favour of the Republic of Lebanon.

- (5) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of 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 Union⁵.
- (6) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the partner country identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the responsible authorising officer has ensured that measures have been taken to supervise and support the implementation of the tasks entrusted to the partner country. A description of these measures and the entrusted tasks are laid down in the Annex to this Decision.
- (7) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for 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.
- (8) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').
- (9) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by the basic act referred to in Recital 2,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The following Programme, constituted by the action identified in the second paragraph and attached as annex, is approved:

Umbrella Programme 2014 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon.

The action constituting this measure is:

- Annex: "Provision of waste water services for vulnerable populations in Lebanon"

The adoption of this Umbrella Programme is subject to the final adoption of the Single Strategic Framework in favour of the Republic of Lebanon for the period 2014-2016.

⁵ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of this programme is set at EUR 15 million to be financed from budget line 21.03.03.03 of the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the attached Annex, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

Section 4 of the Annex referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20 % of the contribution referred to in Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20 % of that contribution shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling referred to in this Article.

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

Done at Brussels, 10.10.2014

For the Commission

Štefan FÜLE

Member of the Commission