



Brussels, 31.7.2020  
C(2020) 5356 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 31.7.2020**

**amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2019) 8733 of 28.11.2019 on the  
Annual Action Programme for Kosovo\* for the year 2019 - Part II**

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 31.7.2020

## amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2019) 8733 of 28.11.2019 on the Annual Action Programme for Kosovo\* for the year 2019 - Part II

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) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures of the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action<sup>2</sup> and in particular Article 2 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By its Decision C(2019)8733 of 28.11.2019, the Commission adopted the Annual Action Programme for Kosovo for the year 2019 - Part II, that included three actions.
- (2) Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, it is now necessary to modify the Objective 2 part of the Programme as a result of the reorientation and reprogramming exercise of IPA funds with the objective to help Kosovo address the social and economic fallout of the COVID-19 crisis on the medium and long term. To this end, the action “EU for Environment” is cancelled and will be reprogrammed at a later stage. As a consequence, the sector Environment, Climate Action and Energy is cancelled. Two new actions are introduced instead as follows: “EU4 Resilience” under Competitiveness and Innovation, Agriculture and Rural development and “EU4 Social protection following the COVID-19 crisis” under Education, Employment and Social Policies.
- (3) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals, pursuant to Article 195 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (4) The Commission should authorise the launch of a call for proposals and tenders by means of a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision.
- (5) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) 236/2014, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.

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

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 77, 15.03.2014, p. 95.

- (6) 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (7) 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (8) Therefore, Decision C(2019) 8733 should be amended accordingly.
- (9) This amendment is in accordance with the opinion of the IPA II Committee set up by Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Sole Article*

Commission Implementing Decision C(2019) 8733 of 28.11.2019 on the Annual Action Programme for Kosovo for the year 2019 - Part II is amended as follows:

1) After Article 2, the following Articles are added:

*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 the Annex.”

*Article 4*

*Grants and Procurement*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals pursuant to Article 195 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 to the bodies referred to in the Annex.

Launching a call for proposals and tenders under a suspensive clause before the adoption of this Decision shall be authorised as of the date set out in the Annex.”

2) Article 3 becomes Article 5.

3 ) The Annex is replaced by the Annex to this Decision

Done at Brussels, 31.7.2020

*For the Commission*  
*Olivér VÁRHELYI*  
*Member of the Commission*

