



Brussels, 13.12.2011
C(2011) 9394 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.12.2011

**on the 2011 Special Measure for Syria to be financed under Article 19 08 01 01 of 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 the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of 24 October 2006 laying down the general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument¹, and in particular Article 13(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Syria² and the National Indicative Programme for the period 2011-2013³. In light of the ongoing repression and restrictive measures taken by the Council of the EU, the Commission has suspended on 25 May 2011 its National Indicative Programme for Syria.
- (2) The criteria set out in Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 and conditions for the special measure are fulfilled. All ongoing and new bilateral co-operation programmes with the Syrian authorities are suspended since 25 May 2011. Security issues and negative travel advices issued by EU Member States are creating major operational constraints to EU-funded projects in Syria.
- (3) The present Decision constitutes a Financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget⁴ (hereafter 'the Financial Regulation') and Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget⁵ (hereafter 'the Implementing Rules').
- (4) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by the present Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of articles 83 of the Financial Regulation and 106(5) of its Implementing Rules.

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1-14.

² C(2007)672 of 27.02.2007.

³ C(2010)1144 of 2.03.2010.

⁴ OJ L 248 of 16.09.2002, p. 1-48.

⁵ OJ L 357 of 31.12.2002, p. 1-71.

- (5) The Commission is required to define the term “substantial change” in the meaning of Article 90 (4) of the Implementing Rules to ensure that any substantial change in this Decision shall follow the same procedure as the initial Decision.
- (6) The Member States (ENPI Committee) and the European Parliament will be informed after adoption of the Decision by the Commission in accordance with Article 13.4 of Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The 2011 Special Measure for Syria, constituted by the actions "Engaging Youth, phase II" (EUR 7.3 million) and "Protecting Vulnerable Palestine Refugees in Syria" (EUR 2.7 million), the text of which is set out in the attached Annexes, is approved.

Article 2

The maximum contribution of the European Union to the 2011 Special Measure for Syria is set at EUR 10 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union for 2011.

This maximum contribution shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

Article 3

Cumulated changes of the allocations to the specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution of the European Union shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the 2011 Special Measure for Syria. This may include an increase of the maximum contribution of the European Union up to 20%.

The relevant authorising officer may amend the present Decision to introduce non-substantial changes to the 2011 Special Measure for Syria in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 13.12.2011

For the Commission
Štefan FÜLE
Member of the Commission

ANNEXES
2011 Special Measure for Syria

Annex 1: action fiche Engaging Youth, phase II

Annex 2: action fiche Protecting Vulnerable Palestine Refugees in Syria