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**COMMISSION DECISION**

***C/2007/6690 of 20/12/2007***

**adopting a National programme for Serbia under the IPA -Transition Assistance and  
Institution Building Component for 2007**

## COMMISSION DECISION

**C/2007/6690 of 20/12/2007**

### **adopting a National programme for Serbia under the IPA -Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2007**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

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(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes, which can be established by country and by component, or, as appropriate, by group of countries or by theme. 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) The Council has established a European Partnership for Serbia and Montenegro<sup>2</sup>. The Commission has adopted on 8 of June 2007 the multi-annual indicative planning document 2007-2009 for Serbia, which presents indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to the country concerned<sup>3</sup>.
- (4) Therefore, and having regard to the project proposals submitted by Serbia, the National Programme for Serbia under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2007 aims at assisting Serbia to implement the necessary reforms needed to fulfil EU requirements, make progress in the Stabilisation and Association Process and to lay the foundations for fulfilling the Copenhagen criteria. Thus providing assistance to push forward the public administration reform, to strengthen the rule of law and good governance in the police and judiciary administrations, to enhance the national economic competitiveness and productivity addressing the negative socio-political consequences of unemployment/economic transition process. Furthermore, to approximate to European Standards in sectors related to the introduction and implementation of the EU 'Acquis, to prepare in the medium-term the decentralisation of EC assistance management and to participate in Community Programmes.
- (5) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the

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

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 35, 7.2.2006, p.32.

<sup>3</sup> C(2007)2497.

implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002<sup>4</sup> (hereafter: “Implementing Rules”) and constitutes thus 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 budget of the European Communities<sup>5</sup> (hereafter: “Financial Regulation”).

- (6) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

The National programme for Serbia under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2007, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by centralised management.

It shall be implemented by means of a Financing Agreement to be concluded between the Commission and the Government of Serbia.

*Article 2*

The maximum amount of Community contribution shall be **EUR 164,836,352**, to be financed through Article 22.02.02 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2007.

Done at Brussels, [...]

*For the Commission*  
*Olli Rehn*  
*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>4</sup> OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1 Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 478/2007 (OJ L111, 28.4.2007, p. 13).

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006 (OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p.1).

**ANNEX**