



Brussels, 12.11.2012
C(2012) 8066 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 12.11.2012

**on the Annual Action Programme 2012 (part II) in favour of Egypt 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 the Regulation (EC) n°1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)¹, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Egypt² and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2011-2013³, points 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 of which provide for the following priorities: reforms in the areas of democracy, human rights and justice; competitiveness and productivity of the Egyptian economy; sustainability of the development process with better management of human and natural resources.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme 2012 (part II) in favour of Egypt are to continue responding to the pressing socio-economic challenges that Egypt is facing and to continue supporting the country in this phase of its transition towards democracy. The two specific actions will contribute to (i) further reforming of the technical and vocational education and training system in Egypt, leading to enhanced youth employability by improving professional skills of young graduates and unemployed so to be able to meeting job market's demands, and (ii) providing job opportunities and specific on-the-job training in deprived areas by launching small scale public works and community projects. The two actions are fully in line with the priorities set out in the two Joint Communications of the European Commission and of the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy "A partnership for democracy and shared prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean"⁴ and "A new response to a changing Neighbourhood"⁵.
- (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

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1-14.

² C(2007) 672 of 27.02.2007.

³ C(2010)1144 of 02.03.2010.

⁴ COM(2011)200 of 8 March 2011.

⁵ COM(2011)303 of 25 May 2011.

Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget⁶ (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 budget⁷ (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.
- (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 measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the ENPI Committee set up under Article 26 of Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Annual Action Programme (part II) in favour of Egypt, constituted by the actions “Technical and vocational education and training reform – phase II (TVET II)” and “Emergency employment investment project in Egypt” the text of which is set out in the attached Annexes, is approved.

Article 2

The maximum contribution of the European Union to the Annual Action Programme 2012 (part II) in favour of Egypt is set at EUR 120 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Union for 2012.

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 Annual Action Programme 2012 (part II) in favour of Egypt. This may include an increase of the maximum contribution of the European Union up to 20%.

⁶ OJ L 248 of 16.09.2002 p. 1.

⁷ OJ L 357 of 31.12.2002, p.1.

The relevant authorising officer may amend the present Decision to introduce non-substantial changes to the Annual Action Programme 2012 (part II) in favour of Egypt in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 12.11.2012

For the Commission
Štefan FÜLE
Member of the Commission

ANNEXES

Annual Action Programme 2012 (part II) in favour of Egypt:

Annex 1: action fiche Technical and vocational education and training reform – phase II (TVET II)

Annex 2: action fiche Emergency employment investment project in Egypt