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## NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF EU DELEGATIONS AND CONTRACTING AUTHORITIES IN IPA AND ENI COUNTRIES

**Subject:** Extension of the flexibility arrangements regarding Twinning contracts in the context of the COVID-19 crisis situation.

The Director General has extended the crisis declaration until 31 December (Ares(2020)4480940 of 28/08) in view of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

In this context, and to facilitate the work of the Contracting Authorities and the implementation of the Twinning projects, I extend the flexibility arrangements regarding Twinning contracts as established by my previous note (Ares(2020)1847623 of 31/03) from 1 October until 31 December 2020. This period may be extended further by an explicit decision if the situation so requires.

As all Twinning projects are specific, the Contracting Authorities remain empowered to assess the situation in situ on a case-by-case basis and take the appropriate decisions regarding the implementation of the projects.

The extension of the flexibility arrangements are applicable for all ongoing Twinning projects, governed by any version of the Twinning Manual.

(e-signed)

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