

COMMISSION DECISION

C(2009)7826 of 19/10/2009

approving the Annual Action Programme 2009 in favour of Lebanon to be financed under budget item 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Communities

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument¹, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Lebanon and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2007-2010 in March 2007², which indicates the priorities of supporting political, social and economic reforms, as well as support for reconstruction and recovery.
- (2) Article 12 of Regulation (EC) n° 1638/2006 provides for the adoption of annual action programmes.
- (3) This decision supports the comprehensive priorities agreed between the EU and Lebanon at a political, cultural, economic and social level as explicitly addressed in the EU-Lebanon Action Plan and is based on the Country Strategy Paper and Multiannual Indicative Programme for Lebanon.
- (4) This decision responds to the needs for the economic reform, recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon as set out at the international donor conference in Paris on 25th January 2007, and forms part of the Commission's overall response.
- (5) This contribution should cover any possible interest due for late payment on the basis of Articles 83 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1605/2002 and 106(5) of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 2342/2002.
- (6) The criteria set out in Regulation (EC) n° 1638/2006 and conditions for the measure have been fulfilled.
- (7) The actions 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.

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p.1.

² C(2007)672

- (8) This decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 (2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities³, Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of that Regulation⁴.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The actions, "*Reinforcing Human rights and Democracy in Lebanon*" (EUR 10 million), "*Support to Reforms III*" (EUR 8 million), "*Support to Education and PFM Reforms*" (EUR 13.7 million), "*EU Scholarship Fund for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon*" (EUR 4.3 million) and "*Demining and Unexploded Ordnance*" (EUR 7 million) which constitute the Annual Action Programme 2009 in favour of Lebanon, the text of which is set out in the Annex, are approved.

Article 2

The maximum contribution of the Community is set at EUR 43 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2009.

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

Article 3

Within the global indicative budget of all the specific actions, cumulated changes not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution of the Community shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the Annual Action Programme.

The responsible authorising officer may introduce non substantial changes to the Annual Action Programme in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission
Benita FERRERO-WALDNER
Member of the Commission

³ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1605/2002 (OJ L 248, 16.09.2002)

⁴ Commission Regulation (EC Euratom) N° 2342/2002 (OJ L 357, 31.12.2002)

ANNEXES

Annual Action Programme Lebanon:

Annex 1: Reinforcing Human rights and Democracy in Lebanon - EUR 10 million

Annex 2: Support to Reforms III - EUR 8 million

Annex 3: Support to Education and PFM Reforms - EUR 13.7 million

Annex 4: EU Scholarship Fund for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon - EUR 4.3 million

Annex 5: Demining and Unexploded Ordnance" - EUR 7 million