COMMISSION DECISION

of 12.10.2009

on the Annual Action Programme 2009 in favour of Armenia to be financed under Article 19 08 01 03 of the general budget of the European Communities
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THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 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 2007-2013 for the Republic of Armenia and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2007-2010², which indicates the priorities of support for democratic development and good governance, support for regulatory reform and administrative capacity building and support for poverty reduction and economic growth.

(2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme are the following:

   – Continuation of vocational education and training (VET) reform and development of an employment strategy

      To support the Armenian Government’s Poverty Reduction Strategy through increasing the quality of the VET sector in order to make it more relevant to the needs of the labour market and individuals.

   – Twinning Facility

      To support the Armenian administration and relevant institutions to enforce effectively the commitments set forth in the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan and their national reform programmes.


¹ OJEU L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1
² C(2007) 672
The Commission is required to define the term “substantial change” in the meaning of Article 90 (4) Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 to ensure that any substantial change in this decision shall follow the same procedure as the initial decision.

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 in favour of Armenia, constituted by the actions "Continuation of vocational education and training (VET) reform and development of an employment strategy" and "Technical assistance and twinning in support of the implementation of the EU-Armenia European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan", the text of which is set out in the attached Annexes, is approved.

Article 2
The maximum contribution of the Community is set at EUR 24.7 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 03 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2009. This decision shall also cover any possible interest due for late payment.

Article 3
Within the maximum 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 authorising officer may introduce non substantial changes to the Annual Action Programme in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 12.10.2009

For the Commission
Benita FERRERO-WALDNER
Member of the Commission
ANNEXES

Annual Action Programme 2009 in favour of the Republic of Armenia

Annex 1: Action Fiche (Continuation of vocational education and training (VET) reform and development of an employment strategy)

Annex 2: Action Fiche (Technical assistance and twinning in support of the implementation of the EU-Armenia European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan)