COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.10.2014

on the Annual Action Programme 2014 - Part 2 in favour of the ENI South countries 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 Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action\(^1\), and in particular Article 2 thereof,


Whereas:

(1) The Commission has adopted the ENI Regional South Strategy Paper (2014-2020) and Multi-annual Indicative Programme (2014-2017)\(^3\) which provide for the following priorities: building a partnership for liberty, democracy and security; building a partnership for inclusive and sustainable economic development; building a partnership with the people; support to regional and sub-regional institutional cooperation.

(2) The objective pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument\(^4\) is to help support the conditions for promoting the peace process and provide a solid foundation at the societal level for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

(3) The action entitled "Middle East Peace Projects (MEPP) – EU Partnership for Peace programme 2014 (PfP Programme)" aims to help support the conditions for promoting the peace process and provide a solid foundation at the societal level for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East by strengthening and increasing direct civil society relationships and co-operation based on equality and reciprocity between Palestinians and Israelis. More specifically, the objective of the action is to strengthen civil society peace building actions and conflict transformation, focusing on initiatives which are likely to have an impact on people’s everyday lives. In particular, the programme intends to support practical actions aiming at rebuilding mutual trust through reconciliation, building capacity for non-violent approaches to conflict resolution, promoting tolerance and launching joint development actions and strategies. Direct management is envisaged for this regional project (procurement and grant).

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\(^1\) OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.
\(^3\) C(2014) 5242 of 30.7.2014.
\(^4\) OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 27.
(4) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union 5.

(5) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

(6) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').

(7) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by the basic act referred to in Recital 2,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1**

Adoption of the measure

The following Annual Action Programme, constituted by the action identified in the second paragraph and attached as annex, is approved:

Annual Action Programme 2014 - Part 2 in favour of the ENI South countries to be financed from the general budget of the European Union.

The action constituting this measure is:

– Middle East Peace Projects (MEPP) – EU Partnership for Peace programme 2014 (PfP Programme).

**Article 2**

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the Annual Action Programme is set at EUR 5 million to be financed from budget line 21.03.01.03 of the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

**Article 3**

Implementation modalities

Section 4 of the Annex referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

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Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20 % of the contribution referred to in Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20 % of that contribution shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The responsible authorising officer may adopt these non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 13.10.2014

For the Commission
Štefan FÜLE
Member of the Commission