



Brussels, 30.11.2016  
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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 30.11.2016**

**on the Annual Action Programme 2016 (Part 2) in favour of the Republic of Lebanon**

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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 establishing common implementing rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for external action<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Single Support Framework in favour of the Republic of Lebanon for the period 2014-2016<sup>3</sup>, point 3 of which provides for the following priorities: Justice and Security System Reform, reinforcing social cohesion, promoting economic development and protecting vulnerable groups, and promotion of sustainable and transparent management of energy and natural resources.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the annual action programme (Part 2) to be financed under Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>4</sup> are the political stability and the prevention of violent extremism in North Lebanon as well as the strengthening of the resilience of Palestine refugees in Lebanon.
- (3) The action entitled 'North Lebanon Local Development Programme for Deprived Urban Areas' aims at the reduction of social frustration and the strengthening of inter-communitarian relations.
- (4) The action entitled 'Programme in Support to the inclusive Education, Training and Career Guidance of Palestine refugees in Lebanon' aims at providing equitable and inclusive access to quality basic education and support building refugees professional skills for increased livelihood opportunities.
- (5) It is necessary to adopt a financing Decision, the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> C(2014) 5132, 24.7.2014 final, Commission Implementing Decision of 24.7.2014 adopting a Single Support Framework for European Union support to Lebanon for the period 2014-2016.

<sup>4</sup> Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a the European Neighbourhood Instrument (OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 27).

<sup>5</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

- (6) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that these entities guarantee a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union equivalent to that required when the Commission manages Union funds. These entities comply with the conditions of points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and the supervisory and support measures are in place as necessary.
- (7) It is necessary to allow for the payment of 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.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, the Commission should define changes to this Decision which are not substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

##### **Adoption of the measure**

The Annual Action Programme 2016 (Part 2) in favour of the Republic of Lebanon, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- (a) Annex I: 'North Lebanon Local Development Programme for Deprived Urban Areas'
- (b) Annex II: 'Programme in Support to the inclusive Education, Training and Career Guidance of Palestine refugees in Lebanon'.

#### *Article 2*

##### **Financial contribution**

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 25 million and shall be financed from budget line 22.040102 for EUR 5 million and from budget line 22.040103 for EUR 20 million of the general budget of the Union for 2016.

The financial contribution referred to in the first paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

#### *Article 3*

##### **Implementation modalities**

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the Annexes, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

The elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, are set out in the Annexes.

*Article 4*

**Non-substantial changes**

Increases or decreases 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 as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling set by this Article. The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 30.11.2016

*For the Commission*  
*Johannes HAHN*  
*Member of the Commission*