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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 17 December 2010
C(2010) 9372

COMMISSION DECISION

C(2010) 9372 of 17 December 2010

adopting the “Cross-border programme Albania – Kosovo^{*}” under the IPA-Cross-border Co-operation component, for the years 2010–2011

* Under UNSCR 1244/1999.

COMMISSION DECISION

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adopting the "Cross-border programme Albania – Kosovo*" under the IPA-Cross-border Co-operation component, for the years 2010–2011

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate countries and potential candidates.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant Multi-annual Indicative Planning Documents referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council has established an Accession Partnership or a European Partnership for all candidates and potential candidates. On 31 July 2009 the Commission has adopted the Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2009–2011 for Albania and on 10 July 2009 the Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2009–2011 for Kosovo, which present the main priorities for pre-accession assistance².
- (4) In accordance with Article 91 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 establishing an instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA)³ (hereinafter referred to as the "IPA Implementing Regulation"), the responsible authorities from Albania and Kosovo submitted to the Commission a proposal for a multi-annual cross-border programme between Albania and Kosovo. This draft programme contains all the elements referred to in Article 94 of the IPA Implementing Regulation and is consistent with the goals and priorities of the Multi-annual Indicative Planning Documents. The draft programme contains, in particular, a description of priorities and the measures chosen for assistance and an indicative financing plan comprising tables for both Albania and Kosovo and specifying, for each year and for each priority axis, the indicative amount

* Under UNSCR 1244/1999.

¹ OJ L 210, 31.07.2006, p. 82.

² For Albania: C(2009)5911; for Kosovo: C(2009)5438.

³ OJ L 170, 29.6.2007, p.1.

of the European Union contribution and its rate, as well as the amount financed by the national counterparts. The draft programme should therefore be adopted by the Commission in accordance with Article 93(2) of the IPA Implementing Regulation.

- (5) The "Cross-border programme Albania – Kosovo*" aims at providing assistance for promoting cooperation between people, communities and institutions in the bordering areas, aiming at the sustainable development, stability and prosperity of these areas in the mutual interest of the citizens on both sides of the border.
- (6) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002⁴ and constitutes thus 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 Communities⁵.
- (7) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee⁶,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The "Cross-border programme Albania – Kosovo*", as set out in Annex 2 to this Decision, is hereby adopted.

The Financing proposal for the years 2010–2011 of the "Cross-border programme Albania – Kosovo*", as set out in Annex 1 to this Decision, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by centralised management.

The programme corresponding to budget years 2010 and 2011 shall be implemented by means of annual Financing Agreements to be concluded between the Commission and each of the beneficiaries in conformity with the Framework Agreements concluded between the same parties on 18 October 2007 for Albania and on 19 December 2007 for Kosovo. Each such Financing Agreement shall cover the European Union contribution for each beneficiary and the year concerned.

Article 2

In the budget year 2010, the maximum amount of the European Union contribution shall be EUR 600,000 for Albania and EUR 600,000 for Kosovo to be financed through Item 22.020401 of the general budget of the European Union.

⁴ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1.

⁵ OJ L 248, 16.09.2002, p.1.

⁶ Recalling the Council Conclusions of 18 February 2008, Member States declare that the adoption of the "Cross-Border programme Albania-Kosovo*" under the IPA-Cross-border Co-operation component for the years 2010–2011 does not prejudice the position of each individual Member State on the status of Kosovo, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.

In the budget year 2011, the maximum amount of the European Union contribution shall be EUR 600,000 for Albania and EUR 600,000 for Kosovo to be financed through Item 22.020401 of the general budget of the European Union, subject to the approval of the Budget 2011 by the budgetary authority.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission,
Štefan Füle
Member of the Commission