

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 14/12/2007**

**approving the Annual Action Programme 2007 in favour of Egypt to be financed under Article 19 08 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 the Regulation (EC) n°1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provision establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>2</sup>, in particular Article 56 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Egypt and the Multi-annual Indicative Programme for the period 2007-2010<sup>3</sup>, point 6.2 which mentions support to improving the competitiveness and the productivity of the Egyptian economy and point 6.3 which mentions the sustainability of the development process.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme are twofold: supporting Egypt's education reform agenda and upgrading the administrative capacity in the Egyptian government within the implementation of the Action Plan.
- (3) This decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, and Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2432/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002<sup>4</sup>.
- (4) It is appropriate to define the term “substantial change” in the meaning of Article 90 (4) Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 for the application of this decision.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 248, 16.09.2002 p. 1. Regulation last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006 (OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

<sup>3</sup> C(2007)672

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 357, 31.12.2002; p. 1. Regulation last amended by Regulation (CE, Euratom) No 478/2007 (OJ L 111, 28.04.2007, p. 13).

- (5) 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 actions "Support to the Implementation of the Action Plan (SIAP)" and the "Education Sector Policy Support Programme (ESPSP)", which constitute the 2007 Annual Action Programme in favour of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the text of which is set out in the Annex, are approved.

*Article 2*

The maximum contribution of the Community is set at EUR 137 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 01 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2007.

*Article 3*

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

The authorising officer may adopt such changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 14 December 2007

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