

PE/2010/503 C(2010) 643

COMMISSION DECISION

of 8 February 2010

on a measure in favour of the Kingdom of Tonga to be financed from the 10th European Development Fund

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000¹, revised by the Agreement of 25 June 2005² signed in Luxemburg, and in particular Articles 17 and 18.2 of Annex IV thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2007 of 14 May 2007 on the implementation of the 10th European Development Fund under the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, and in particular Article 7.1 thereof³.

Having regard to Financing Agreement No. 9644/TG with the Kingdom of Tonga signed on 01/05/2007 and in particular Articles 2.3, 20.1 and 20.2 of the General Conditions applying to the 9th

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for the Kingdom of Tonga and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2008-2013⁴, point 1.2.2 of which providing for the following priority: support to mitigate adverse effects of instability in export earnings.
- (2) The purpose of Financing Agreement No. 9644/TG is to provide a technical assistance for the identification of actions to be considered for funding and speedy implementation of actions funded under Tonga's Indicative Programme, together with training and improved awareness among key actors in Tonga of general development, good governance and trade issues, and of EU policies in these areas. In addition, the project will support the observance and adoption of good governance principles and support the ongoing motion towards more democratic governance and political reforms.

¹ OJ L 317, 15.12.2000, p. 3

² OJ L 287, 28.10.2005, p. 5

³ OJ L 152, 13.6.2007, p. 1

⁴ C(2007)4629. The CSP was signed on 18.10.2007

- (3) The objectives pursued by the measure are to provide for necessary Technical Assistance and capacity building support to the office of the NAO and support to the agenda for Political Reforms.
- (4) The NAO has requested that the additional FLEX 2006 allocation to Tonga be used to finance necessary studies and technical assistance in preparation of the 10th EDF renewable energy programme.
- (5) It is thus appropriate to increase the EDF financial allocation to the "Technical Cooperation Facility" programme by 210,000 Euros to a total of 710,000 Euros, and the above mentioned Financing Agreement should be amended accordingly.
- (6) It is therefore necessary to modify the Technical and Administrative Provisions (TAPs).
- (7) The measures covered by this Decision are in conformity with the objectives of technical assistance as defined in Article 55 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement.
- (8) This decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 16 of Annex IV to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement and Article 67 of the Financial Regulation applicable to the 10th European Development Fund
- (9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Development Fund Committee set up by article 8 of the Internal Agreement of 17 July 2006.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

An additional contribution of 210,000 Euros to the "Technical Cooperation Facility" in favour of Kingdom of Tonga, the description of which is set out in the attached Annex I, is approved.

Article 2

The addendum No. 1 to the Financing Agreement No. 9644/TG signed on 01/05/2007 with the Kingdom of Tonga, the text of which is set out in Annex II, is hereby approved.

Article 3

This decision is addressed to the responsible authorising officers.

Done at Brussels, 16/02/2010

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

ANNEXES

Annex 1: action fiche - Technical Cooperation Facility TG/001/06 EDF IX