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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 22.10.2014

on the Annual Action Programme 2014 for the "Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) in the areas of Migration and Asylum" to be financed from the general budget

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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 236/2014¹ 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, 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 1605/2002², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Thematic Programme "Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC)³ in the areas of migration and asylum" for the period 2014-2017 which establishes the following three objectives: "Promotion of effective governance of migration and mobility and improved management of migratory flows in all their dimensions" (Objective 1); "Enhance the positive impact of the increased regional and global migration and mobility of people on economic, social and environmental development" (Objective 2); "Improving a common understanding of the migration and development nexus" (Objective 3).
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under the Development Cooperation Instrument⁴ are to (i) supporting the Mobility Partnerships with Azerbaijan, Tunisia and Jordan, (ii) acting globally to prevent and address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants, (iii) supporting an evidence based approach for effective and cooperative state action regarding migrants in countries in crisis, (iv) providing short-term expertise to partner countries to enhance migration governance and (v) working with the civil society for promoting the rights of migrants, and (vi) maximising the impact of global remittances in rural areas; (vii) contributing to the achievement of the objectives and specific results of the Global Public Goods and Challenges Programme – Migration and Asylum 2014-2020 by providing support measures to the European Commission, including EU Delegations, for the efficient and effective implementation of the programme.
- (3) The Actions constituting this Annual Action Programme are:

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95–108

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ C(2014)5072

⁴ Regulation no 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 77, 15.03.2014, p.44

i. **"Support to Mobility Partnerships with Azerbaijan, Tunisia and Jordan"**: the overall objective is to support the implementation of the Mobility Partnerships between the EU and neighbouring countries, in particular with Azerbaijan, Tunisia and Jordan, with specific focus on strengthening the capacity of partner countries to develop and implement their national migration policy.

ii. **"Global action to prevent and address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants"**: the overall objective is to prevent and address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants by assisting selected countries in developing and implementing comprehensive national counter-trafficking and smuggling responses and strengthening their capacities to efficiently address these issues and the inter-linkages between them, including at transnational level and in cooperation with the civil society.

iii. **"Migrants in Countries in Crisis: Supporting an evidence based approach for effective and cooperative state action"**: the overall objective is to improve the capacity of states and, where relevant, other actors to assist and provide protection to migrants who find themselves in countries in crisis and address the long-term implications of such situations.

iv. **"Migration EU Expertise: providing short-term expertise to partner countries to enhance migration governance"**: the overall objective is to contribute to the improvement of migration governance at national and regional levels by strengthening the capacities of public authorities to better manage migration and mobility in all its dimensions through the provision of rapid, short-term and small-scale peer-to-peer expertise assistance.

v. **"Civil Society Action for Promoting the Rights of Migrants – budget increase"**: the overall objective is to promote migrant's rights and their protection, with a specific focus on migrant domestic workers, and contribute towards eradicating human trafficking, in its different forms, in targeted countries, corridors and regions, in the frame of a globally coordinated civil society action.

vi. **"Maximizing the Impact of Global Remittances in Rural Areas"**: the overall objective is to maximise the potential of remittances for the local economic and social development with a global geographic coverage, focusing on rural areas.

vii. **"Support Measures"**: the overall objective is to contribute to the achievement of the objectives and specific results of the Global Public Goods and Challenges Programme – Migration and Asylum 2014-2020 by providing support measures to the European Commission, including EU Delegations, for the efficient and effective implementation of the programme as specified in Article 3 of the Common Implementation Rules.

- (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 Union⁵.
- (5) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. The responsible authorising officer has accordingly ensured that these entities comply with the conditions of points (a) to (d) of the second subparagraph of

⁵ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012. However, the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Fund for Agricultural Development are currently undergoing the ex-ante assessment. In anticipation of the results of this review, the responsible authorising officer deems that, based on a preliminary evaluation and on the long-standing and problem-free cooperation with it, budget-implementation tasks can be entrusted to these entities.

- (6) It is appropriate to acknowledge that grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer who ensures that the conditions for an exception to a call for proposals according to Article 190 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 are fulfilled. The reasons for and potential beneficiaries of such award should be identified, where known, in this Decision for reasons of transparency.
- (7) 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 1268/2012⁶.
- (8) 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').
- (9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee set up under Article 19 of the Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation for the period 2014-2020.⁷

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The 2014 Annual Action Programme for the "Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) in the areas of Migration and Asylum", as set out in the Annexes, is approved.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Annex 1: "Support to Mobility Partnerships with Azerbaijan, Tunisia and Jordan"
- Annex 2: "Global action to prevent and address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants"
- Annex 3: "Migrants in Countries in Crisis: Supporting an evidence based approach for effective and cooperative state action"
- Annex 4: "Migration EU Expertise: providing short-term expertise to partner countries to enhance migration governance"
- Annex 5: "Civil Society Action for Promoting the Rights of Migrants"

⁶ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

⁷ OJ L 77, 15.03.2014, p.44

- Annex 6: "Maximizing the Impact of Global Remittances in Rural Areas"
- Annex 7: "Support Measures".

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 41 318 690 to be financed from budget line BGUE-B-2014-21.020707-C1-DEVCO of the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

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

Section 4 of the Annexes 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.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer according to Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. Where known at the moment of the adoption of this Decision, the reasons for this as well as the potential beneficiaries shall be identified in the attached Annexes.

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

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20 % of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of 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, 22.10.2014

For the Commission
Andris PIEBALGS
Member of the Commission