



Brussels, 15.12.2016
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 15.12.2016

**on a pilot project in favour of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador to be financed
from the general budget of the Union**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

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 1605/2002¹, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The 2016 budget establishes a pilot project for investing in enhancing of rights and protection for forcibly displaced children and adolescents in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.
- (2) This pilot project aims at improving immediate and long-term protection responses for children and adolescents displaced by violence, persecution and violations of human rights and strengthening child protection systems at regional, national and local levels.
- (3) The pilot project has the following specific objective: at least 14,640 displaced children and adolescents including separated and/or unaccompanied minors to benefit from stronger and holistic protection mechanisms in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.
- (4) 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 1268/2012² 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 Union.
- (5) It is necessary to adopt a work programme for grants the detailed rules on which are set out in Article 128(1) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and in Article 188(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. The work programme is constituted by the Annex.
- (6) It is necessary to allow 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.
- (7) It is necessary to define the term "non-substantial change" within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the responsible authorising officer.

¹ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

² 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 Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

The pilot project in favour of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, as set out in the Annex, is approved.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the pilot project referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 1,450,000 and shall be financed from budget line 21 02 77 25 of the general budget of the European Union for 2016 (EUR 700,000) and 2017 (EUR 750,000), subject to availability of appropriations following the adoption of the relevant budget.

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

Article 3

Implementation modalities

The section “Implementation” of the Annex to this Decision sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10,000,000 not exceeding 20 % of the contribution set by the first paragraph of 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, 15.12.2016

For the Commission

Neven Mimica

Member of the Commission