COMMISSION DECISION

of 11.12.2017

on the 2017 Annual Action Programme in favour of Belize to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund
COMMISSION DECISION

of 11.12.2017

on the 2017 Annual Action Programme in favour of Belize to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 322/2015 of 2 March 2015 on the implementation of the 11th European Development Fund, and in particular Article 9(1) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 323/2015 of 2 March 2015 on the financial regulation applicable to the 11th European Development Fund, and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The Commission has adopted National Indicative Programme for Belize for the period 2014-20201, points 3.2, 3.3 and 4, which provides for the following priorities: Health; Public Financial Management and Revenue Reform and Measures in favour of civil society.

(2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Internal Agreement (‘Internal Agreement’)2 are on the one hand to assist the Government of Belize in its efforts to improve the legal framework, to establish an Internal Audit Unit, to strengthen the capacity of the Auditor General and Contractor General, and to improve coordination of Public Finance Management (PFM) implementing partners and donors. On the other hand the objectives are to assist the Government of Belize in the development of efficient, effective, disaster resilient and environmentally friendly health facilities, the strengthening of the Health information system and of the organization and management of health services.

(3) The action entitled ‘Health Support Programme Belize’ has the following objectives: (i) efficient, effective, disaster resilient and environmentally friendly health facilities developed; (ii) health information system strengthened in collaboration with an organized surveillance system; (iii) structure, organization and management of health services strengthened. It will be implemented via direct management and through the procurement of grants and services and indirect management with an international organisation.

---

1 C(2014) 3919, 18.06.2014
2 Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Union, meeting within the Council, on the financing of European Union aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2014 to 2020, in accordance with the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, and on the allocation of financial assistance for the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) to which Part Four of the EC Treaty applies, OJ L 210, 6.8.2013;
The action entitled ‘11th EDF PFM Belize’ has the following objectives: (i) improve the legal framework corresponding to strengthening the internal and external audit and contractor general; (ii) develop technical and institutional capacity for the establishment of an Internal Audit Unit (IAU) and pilot internal audit units across the government; (iii) strengthen capacity of Auditor General and Contractor General; (iv) improve coordination of PFM implementing partners and donors. It will be implemented via direct management and through the procurement by international tender.

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 1268/2012\(^3\) applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.

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, applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 37(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. The work programme is constituted by the Annex 2.

The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entity specified in Annex 2 to this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1)(c) and (2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that this entity guarantees a level of protection of the financial interests of the European Union equivalent to that required when the Commission manages European Union funds. This entity complies with the conditions set out in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and the supervisory and support measures are in place as necessary.

It is necessary to allow for 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, applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 29(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/323.

Pursuant to Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, any substantial change to a financing decision that has already been adopted should follow the same procedure as the initial decision. It is therefore appropriate that the Commission defines the changes to this Decision that are considered non substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.

The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the European Development Fund Committee set up by Article 8 of the Internal Agreement.

---

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the programme
The 2017 Annual Action Programme in favour of Belize to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following actions:

– Annex 1: Health Support Programme Belize;
– Annex 2: 11th EDF PFM Belize

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 11 910 000 and shall be financed from the 11th European Development Fund.

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

Article 3

Methods of implementation
Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the attached Annexes 1 and 2, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

The elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 are set out in the Annexes to this Decision.

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, applicable in accordance with Article 2(1) and Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.
The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 11.12.2017

For the Commission
Neven Mimica

Member of the Commission