



Brussels, 23.8.2018
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 23.8.2018

**on the financing of the special measure in favour of Iran for 'Support to Sustainable
Development in Iran' for 2018**

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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) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 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 action², and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the special measure in favour of Iran, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2018. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (3) The European Union is and will remain committed to the continued full and effective implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action as long as Iran abides by all its nuclear-related commitments. To underpin EU policy vis-à-vis Iran, and as confidence building measures, the Commission will continue and strengthen the ongoing sectoral cooperation with, and assistance to, Iran, in line with the April 2016 Joint Statement of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission Federica Mogherini and Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. Since cooperation with Iran is unforeseen in the current Multiannual Financial Framework, the Commission opted for implementing special measures.
- (4) The objective pursued by this special measure to be financed under the Development Cooperation Instrument⁴ is to support Iran in achieving sustainable economic and social development.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu. Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy, the OJ prevails.

- (5) The action entitled 'Support to Sustainable Development in Iran' will contribute to (1) increased and diversified trade in goods and services, (2) decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation, and (3) comprehensive and evidence-based drug use prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration.
- (6) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (7) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.

To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (8) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (9) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the measure, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (10) The measure provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Development Cooperation Instrument Committee established under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 233/2014,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The measure

The financing decision, constituting the measure for the implementation of the special measure in favour of Iran for 'Support to Sustainable Development in Iran' for 2018, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The measure shall include the following action:

- Annex: Support to Sustainable Development in Iran

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the measure for 2018 is set at EUR 18 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union: 21.020400.

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

⁴ Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation for the period 2014-2020 (OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 44).

Article 3

Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 5.3 of the Annex.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in 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 for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 23.8.2018

For the Commission
Neven Mimica

Member of the Commission