COMMISSION DECISION

of 27.11.2013

on an individual measure in favour of PALOP (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tomé and Principe) and Timor Leste to be financed from the 10th European Development Fund
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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000\(^1\), and revised in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 22 June 2010\(^2\) (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Cotonou Agreement’), and in particular Articles 16 and 34 of Annex IV thereof,

Having regard to to Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2007 of 14 May 2007 on the implementation of the 10\(^{th}\) European Development Fund under the Cotonou Agreement\(^3\), and in particular Article 7 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 215/2008 of 18 February 2008 on Financial Regulation applicable to the 10\(^{th}\) European Development Fund\(^4\) (hereinafter referred to as ‘the 10\(^{th}\) EDF Financial Regulation’) and in particular Article 67 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The Memorandum of Understanding subscribed in November 2007 between the European Commission and the Portuguese Speaking African Countries (PALOP) (Angola\(^5\), Cape Verde\(^6\), Guinea Bissau\(^7\), Mozambique\(^8\), Sao Tomé and Principe) and Timor-Leste\(^9\) for the period 2008-2013, provides for the following priorities: cooperation in the field of democratic governance, in particular, the political dimension, democracy, human rights and rule of law, government effectiveness, especially, the provision of public services, economic and social governance.

(2) The objectives pursued by the project are to support the PALOP-TL countries in addressing their economic governance capacities shortages and to improve the

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\(^{1}\) OJ L 317, 15.12.2000, p. 3.
\(^{2}\) OJ L 287, 4.11.2010, p. 3.
\(^{5}\) C(2008)1209, 03.04.2008. The CSP for Angola was signed on 28 November 2008.
\(^{7}\) C(2007)6009, 06.12.2007. The CSP for Guinea Bissau was signed 9 December 2007.
\(^{8}\) C(2007)6065, 06.12.2007. CSP for Mozambique was signed on 9 December 2007.
effectiveness, transparency, quality and efficiency of their Public Financial Management (PFM) systems.

(3) The measures covered by this Decision are in conformity with the objectives of development finance co-operation as defined in Article 55 of the Cotonou Agreement.

(4) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under decentralised management (indirect management with the partner country) to the beneficiary third countries identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. The degree of decentralisation foreseen complies with the conditions of Articles 21 to 24 of the 10th EDF Financial Regulation.

(5) 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 87(2) of the 10th EDF Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) 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 Union10.

(6) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 9(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2007 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').

(7) The measure provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Development Fund Committee set up under Article 8 of the Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the financing of Community aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2008 to 2013 in accordance with the ACP-EC Agreement and on the allocation of financial assistance for the Overseas Countries and Territories to which Part Four of the EC Treaty applies11.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the project

The individual measure in favour of the PALOP (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tomé and Principe) and Timor Leste countries, constituted by the action identified in the second paragraph, is approved.

The action, the description of which is set out in the attached Annex shall be:

– Support for the establishment of the Training Institute for Financial and Economic Management in Portuguese Language - IGEF

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of this project set at EUR 3 000 000 to be financed from the 10th European Development Fund.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

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

Section 4 of the Annex referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements of a financing decision.

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 cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 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, 27.11.2013

For the Commission
Fernando Frutuoso de Melo Director-General