COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 16.10.2014

on the 2014 Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme for cooperation with third countries to be financed from the general budget of the European Union
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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the 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 action and in particular Article 2 thereof¹,


Whereas:


(2) The Commission shall adopt Annual Action Programmes, based on the Multi-annual Indicative Programmes referred to in the in Article 4 of the Regulation (EU) No 234/2014 establishing a Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries;

(3) The Action programmes shall specify for each action the objectives pursued, the expected results and main activities, the methods of implementation, the budget and an indicative timetable, any associated support measures and performance monitoring arrangements;

(4) The Commission has adopted an Implementing Decision on the first Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2014-2017 under the Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries⁴;

(5) In line with the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2014-2017, this Annual Action Programme includes measures in the following areas: support for the Union's cooperation partnership strategies, cooperation on global challenges, implementation of the international dimension of the "Europe 2020" strategy and promotion of the Unions internal policies abroad, support for economic and trade relations as well as promotion of the Union's values and interests

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95
² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1
³ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p 77
⁴ C(2014) 4453 final of 3 July 2014
(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 the direct award is based on points (c), (d) or (f) of Article 190(1) of Delegated Regulation (EU) no 1268/2012”. This Decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council;

(7) 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');

(8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Partnership Instrument Committee.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Annual Action Programme, constituted by the actions identified in the second paragraph and laid down in the Annex to this Decision, is adopted: 2014 Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme for cooperation with third countries.

The actions constituting this Annual Action Programme are:
Annex A: Action Fiche Policy Support Facility (PSF);
Annex B: Action Fiche Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX);
Annex C: Action Fiche Emission Trading System in the Republic of Korea;
Annex D: Action Fiche Low carbon business action in Brazil;
Annex E: Action Fiche Low carbon business action in Mexico;
Annex F: Action Fiche Clean energy cooperation with India;
Annex G: Action Fiche GCC Clean Energy Network;
Annex H: Action Fiche EU-China dialogue on migration and mobility;
Annex I: Action Fiche EU- Green Gateway Republic of Korea;
Annex J: Action Fiche Gateway/EU business avenues to South East Asia;
Annex K: Action Fiche EU-India cooperation on ICT standardisation, policy and legislation
Annex L: Action Fiche Schuman Fulbright Fellowships;
Annex M: Action Fiche Gateway to China
Annex N: Action Fiche Public Procurement Initiative;
Annex O: Action Fiche Public Diplomacy Actions;
Annex P: Action Fiche Cooperation with Northern and Southern Transatlantic Dimension”.

Article 2
The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the 2014 Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme for cooperation with third countries is at EUR 107,000,000 to be financed from budget line 19.0501 of the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

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

Article 3

Technical amendments such as extensions of the implementation period, reassignment of funds between actions contained in this Annual Action Programme, or increases or reductions of the budget of the Annual Action Programme by not more than 20% of the initial budget and not exceeding € 10 million shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the objectives of the measure. The responsible authorising officer may adopt these non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 16.10.2014

For the Commission
Catherine ASHTON
Vice-President