Brussels, 22.5.2017
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 22.5.2017

modifying the 2016 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 thereof,


Whereas:


(2) The Commission shall adopt Annual Action Programmes, based on the Multi-annual Indicative Programmes referred to in Article 4 of the said Regulation.

(3) 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 countries;

(4) In line with the multiannual indicative programme for the period 2014-2017, the Commission has adopted Implementing Decision C(2016)2989 of 26 May 2016, on the 2016 Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme for cooperation with third countries to be financed from the general budget of the European Union, which has been modified by Commission Implementing Decision C(2016)7198 of 15 November 2016.

(5) The 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 Union's internal policies abroad, support for economic and trade relations, academic cooperation, public diplomacy and outreach as well as promotion of the Union's values and interests.

(6) It is now necessary to modify again the Annual Action Programme in order to adapt the Annexes 2, 6, 14, 15, 18 and 22 of Commission Implementing Decision C(2016)2989, as modified by Commission Implementing Decision C(2016)7198.

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
Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the attached modified Annexes 2 and 6, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreement.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposal by the authorising officer responsible in accordance with Article 190 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 on the rules of application of Regulation 'EU, Euratom' No 966/2012 of the European parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union.

This Decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

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.

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').

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

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1**

Commission Implementing Decision C(2016)2989 of 26 May 2016 on the 2016 Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme for cooperation with third countries to be financed from the general budget of the European Union, as modified by Commission Implementing Decision C(2016)7198 of 15 November 2016, is modified as follows:

- Annexes 2, 6, 14, 15, 18 and 22 of the said Decision are replaced by the correspondent revised Annexes to this Decision.

**Article 2**

This Decision does not increase the maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by Decision C(2016)2989 and by Decision C(2016)7198, as further modified through three non-substantial amendments.

As a result, the overall maximum contribution of the European Union for the implementation of the 2016 Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme for cooperation with third countries is set at EUR 109 152 000, of which EUR 1 500 000 is to be financed from budget line 19.0501 of the general budget of the European Union for 2017 and EUR 107 652 000 to be financed from budget line 19.0501 of the general budget of the European Union for 2016.

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

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Article 3

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the revised Annexes 2 and 6, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the authorising officer responsible in accordance with Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Done at Brussels, 22.5.2017

For the Commission
Federica MOGHERINI
Vice-President