



Brussels, 9.8.2018
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 9.8.2018

on the adoption of the 2018 work programme for operational technical assistance managed by the Commission on the request of Bulgaria pursuant to Article 11 of Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and the Council, serving as financing decision

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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(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013², and in particular Article 13(5) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006³ and in particular Article 58(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of actions to be financed from the resources transferred to the Commission by Bulgaria for the year 2018 in application of Article 25 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2018. Article 110 of the Financial Regulation establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals to international organisations as the specific characteristics of the actions foreseen under the work programme require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence and its high degree of specialisation.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² OJ L 129, 19.05.2017, p. 1.

³ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320.

- (3) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation 2018/1046,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the operational technical assistance to be financed from the resources transferred to the Commission by Bulgaria under the Structural Reform Support Programme for the year 2018, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2018 is set at EUR 1 500 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following line of the general budget of the Union:

budget line 04.02 63 02 European Social Fund - Operational technical assistance managed by the Commission at the request of a Member State : EUR 1 500 000⁴.

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

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme. The increase of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

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.

Article 4
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies referred to in point 2 of the Annex, in accordance with the conditions set out therein.

⁴This amount must include the appropriations corresponding to assigned revenue, if they are available at the time the financing decision is adopted.

Done at Brussels, 9.8.2018

For the Commission
Valdis DOMBROVSKIS
Vice-President