



Brussels, 18.6.2020
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 18.6.2020

**on adopting an Action Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community for the year 2020
(Part I)**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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on adopting an Action Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community for the year 2020 (Part I)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 of 27 February 2006 establishing an instrument of financial support for encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community¹, and in particular Article 3 thereof,

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 966/2012², and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Following the accession of Cyprus, the application of the *acquis* is suspended pursuant to Article 1(1) of Protocol No 10 to the Act of Accession 2003 in the areas of the Republic of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control (hereinafter referred to as ‘the areas’).
- (2) Pursuant to Article 3(1) of Protocol No 10, nothing in the Protocol precludes measures with a view to promoting the economic development of the areas.
- (3) Council Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 lays down the rules and conditions for the granting of assistance to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community with particular emphasis on the economic integration of the island, on improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU, and on preparation for the *acquis*.
- (4) In order to ensure the implementation of the Action Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community for the year 2020 (Part I) it is necessary to adopt a financing decision. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (5) The envisaged assistance is deemed to follow the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.

¹ OJ L 65, 7.3.2006, p. 5.

² OJ L 191, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu Please 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 between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

- (6) The objectives pursued by the Action Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community for the year 2020 (Part I) are the promotion of social and economic development through emergency SME support following the COVID-19 pandemic, and the preparation of legal texts aligned with the EU acquis for the purpose of these being immediately applicable upon the entry into force of a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem and preparation for implementation of the acquis in view of the withdrawal of its suspension in accordance with Article 1 of Protocol No 10 to the Act of Accession.
- (7) All individual legal commitments for this Action Programme shall be concluded no later than three years following the date of budgetary commitment according to Article 5(1) of Regulation (EC) No 389/2006.
- (8) The Commission should entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entity specified in the Annex to this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a contribution agreement. 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) 2018/1046⁴ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (9) 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.
- (10) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046,
- (11) The measure provided for in this Decision does not fall within the categories of measures for which the prior opinion of the Committee is required. The Commission shall inform the IPA II Committee set up by Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) no later than one week after this decision is taken,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Adoption of the programme

The Action Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community for the year 2020 (Part I), as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

⁴ Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the Programme is set at EUR 5 million and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the budget line 13 07 01 of the general budget of the Union for 2020.

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

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 the Annex.

Article 4
Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million 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 within the meaning of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where 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, acting in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 18.6.2020

For the Commission
Elisa FERREIRA
Member of the Commission

