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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 13.11.2019**

**on the financing of the multiannual action programme in favour of Central Asia for  
2019 and for 2020 part 1**

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## on the financing of the multiannual action programme in favour of Central Asia for 2019 and for 2020 part 1

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 966/2012<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to 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<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action programme in favour of Central Asia for 2019 and for 2020 part 1, it is necessary to adopt an multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2019 and 2020. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU<sup>3</sup>.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Regional Indicative Programme for Central Asia for the period 2014-2020<sup>4</sup>, revised through the Mid-term Review of programming documents under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) Regulation (EU) 233/2014 as foreseen by its Article 11<sup>5</sup>, which sets out the following priorities: Regional Sustainable Development; Regional Stability and Security; and Policy Dialogue and Technical Assistance.
- (4) The objectives pursued by the Multiannual Action Programme 2019 and 2020 part 1 in favour of the Central Asia region to be financed under the DCI<sup>6</sup> are to contribute to the

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

<sup>3</sup> [www.sanctionsmap.eu](http://www.sanctionsmap.eu). 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, the OJ prevails.

<sup>4</sup> Decision C(2014) 5653

<sup>5</sup> Decision C(2018) 4741

<sup>6</sup> Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation for the period 2014-2020, OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 44.

security and economic development of the region, contributing to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in the process (including clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, health, peace, justice and strong institutions, gender equality, reduced inequality).

- (5) The action entitled ‘Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP) – Phase 7’ aims to develop integrated, balanced and evidence-based drug policies, taking into account best practices in order to increase the access to quality demand-reduction interventions that will lead to improved citizens' health in Central Asia.
- (6) The action entitled ‘Border Management Programme in Central Asia and Afghanistan (BOMCA) – Phase 10’ aims to increase security and stability by fostering sustainable economic development in Central Asia and Afghanistan through integrated border management.
- (7) The action entitled ‘Investment Facility for Central Asia (IFCA)’ promotes investments in the sectors energy, environment, support to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and social infrastructure. The facility thus contributes to the realisation of projects aiming to reduce unemployment and poverty and to advance the economy in a sustainable way.
- (8) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (10) 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) 2018/1046<sup>7</sup> and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.

- (11) 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.
- (12) 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.
- (13) The actions provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Development Cooperation Instrument Committee established under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 233/2014.

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<sup>7</sup> 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.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*The programme*

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual programme for the implementation of the multiannual action programme 2019 and 2020 part 1 in favour of Central Asia for 2019 and for 2020, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP) – Phase 7, set out in Annex I;
- Border Management Programme in Central Asia and Afghanistan (BOMCA) – Phase 10, set out in Annex II;
- Investment Facility for Central Asia (IFCA), set out in Annex III.

*Article 2*  
*Union Contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2019 and for 2020 is set at EUR 58 750 000 , and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- budget line 21.020300: 54 750 000;
- budget line 21.020200: 4 000 000.

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2020, following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

*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 Annexes I and III, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in points 5.4.1 of Annex I and 5.3 of Annex III.

*Article 4*  
*Flexibility clause*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 000 000 not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes<sup>8</sup> 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 for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, provided that these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

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<sup>8</sup> These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

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 5*  
*Grants*

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex II. Grants may be awarded to the bodies selected in accordance with point 5.4.1 of Annex II.

Done at Brussels, 13.11.2019

*For the Commission*  
*Neven MIMICA*  
*Member of the Commission*