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## COMMISSION DECISION

C(2008)6407 of 5 November 2008

### **adopting a National programme for Croatia under the IPA-Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component, for the year 2008**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes, which can be established by country and by component. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council has established an Accession Partnership for Croatia<sup>2</sup>. The Commission has adopted on 18 September 2008 a multi-annual indicative planning document *2008/2010* for Croatia which presents indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to Croatia<sup>3</sup>.
- (4) Therefore, and having regard to the project proposals submitted by Croatia, the national programme for Croatia under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for the year 2008 aims at providing assistance for addressing the political and economic membership criteria, as well as the ability to assume the obligations of membership and supporting programmes.
- (5) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002<sup>4</sup> and constitutes thus a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 (2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

<sup>2</sup> Council Decision 2008//119/EC of 12 February 2008 (OJ L 42, 16.02.2008, p.42).

<sup>3</sup> C(2008)5057.

<sup>4</sup> OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

- (6) The administrative capacity of Croatia is sufficiently developed to allow for implementation of this programme by decentralised management, as provided for in Article 53c of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002.
- (7) The Commission concluded on 27/08/2007 a Framework Agreement with the Government of Croatia on the rules for co-operation and implementation of pre-accession assistance.
- (8) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

The national programme for Croatia under the IPA-Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2008 as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by decentralised management. To that effect, a financing agreement shall be concluded between the Commission and the Government of Croatia in conformity with the Framework Agreement concluded between the same parties.

*Article 2*

The maximum amount of Community assistance shall be EUR 41 374 000 to be financed through Article 22.0201 of the general budget of the European Communities for the year 2008.

Done at Brussels, [...]

*For the Commission*