EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 31.1.2019
C(2019) 636 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION DECISION

on the financing of the Pilot project "Setting up a EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism" and the adoption of the work programme for 2018

1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives given in the budget remarks related to the Pilot project, this work programme contains the action on setting up a EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism, which will be financed through procurement.

2. Procurement

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for a procurement contract in 2018 is EUR 1 000 000.

Legal basis

Pilot project within the meaning of Article 58(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation[1]

Budget line

18 02 77 03

Objectives pursued

The 2012 Victims' Rights Directive[2] together with specific victims-related provisions in the 2017 Counter-terrorism Directive[3] and the 2004 Directive on Compensation[4] provide for a general framework of rights for victims of terrorism (hereinafter "the EU rules"). In particular Title V of the Counter-terrorism Directive provides for a set of specific rights for victims of terrorism and corresponding obligations for the Member States. The obligations which must be fulfilled by Member States include in particular: - ensuring the availability of support services addressing specific needs of victims of terrorism immediately after a terrorist attack and for as long as necessary, and - setting up, within the framework of national emergency-response infrastructures, mechanisms and protocols allowing for activation of support services for victims of terrorism. Recital 29 of this Directive specifies that the response to victims of terrorism must be comprehensive and that initiatives of Member States in this respect should be supported by making full use of available common assistance mechanisms and resources at Union level. The Council Conclusions adopted on 4 June 2018 call on Member States to ensure effective

1 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 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

2 Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA (OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, p. 57–73).

3 Directive (EU) 2017/541 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on combating terrorism and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA and amending Council Decision 2005/671/JHA (OJ L 88, 31.3.2017, p. 6–21).

4 Council Directive 2004/80/EC of 29 April 2004 relating to compensation to crime victims (OJ L 261, 6.8.2004, p. 15–18).

transposition of the existing EU rules on victims' rights and to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the Member States. The Council Conclusions also call on the Commission to support the setting up of a Coordination Centre for Victims of Terrorism.

Also the European Parliament has requested the Commission to set up a Victims of Terrorism Response Coordination Centre as a pilot project.

This pilot project aims at setting up a **Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism** that is expected to be the first step that will lead a way to a possible setting up of a Coordination Centre for Victims of Terrorism in the future (second step).

The Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism would provide for concrete and practical actions with a positive impact on victims of terrorism.

The Centre also aims at assisting the Member States in ensuring effective transposition and practical application of the Directive by making available common assistance mechanisms and resources at Union level.

At the end of the pilot project all actions of the Centre of Expertise will be evaluated with a view to analyse the necessity and the feasibility of setting up of the EU Coordination Centre for Victims of Terrorism.

The objectives of the EU Centre of Expertise are the following:

(i) **to develop guidelines and training materials**, and provide for trainings for national authorities and for national victim support organisations on victims' needs and on practical aspects of implementation of the EU rules on victims of terrorism.

(ii) **to act as a hub of expertise and platform for practitioners** dealing with victims of terrorism. In particular the Centre will set up lists of experts (trained psychologists, lawyers, experts in compensation) and victims support organisations, facilitate access to information about victims' rights and their application in practice and will run a comprehensive website.

(iii) **to assist the European Commission and the European Network of Victims' Rights in reinforcing operational coordination between Member States and victim associations** including assistance in identifying the authorities responsible for victims' attention and care in each Member State, as well as establishing safe communication channels allowing immediate exchange of information about victims of different nationalities when a terrorist attack takes place.

(iv) to evaluate the necessity and the feasibility of setting up of a EU Coordination Centre for Victims of Terrorism.

All actions of the EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism will be under the steer and supervision of the Commission and in close cooperation with the European Network of Victims' Rights.

In relation to the objectives of the Centre, the contract shall cover in particular:

(1) elaboration of guidelines and training programmes based on the state-of-the-art knowledge and experiences of the most effective solutions for victims of terrorism (such as national emergency centres for immediate support and national resilience centres for a long-term support) and for targeted trainings in all Member States, including train-the-trainer techniques;

(2) research and gathering the relevant experts from all Member States and third countries as well as creation and publication of the lists of experts; setting up and management of the comprehensive website about victims' rights and relevant support services;

(3) development of practical tools aimed at reinforcement of cooperation and a better flow of information;

(4) a feasibility study on setting up of a EU Coordination Centre for Victims of Terrorism.

Expected results

- National authorities and victim support organisations in all Member States have increased knowledge and capacity to act in the event of a terrorist attack, achieved through developed guidelines and training activities provided by the EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism.
- Experts, research, knowledge and skills from the European Union are gathered in a well-functioning, sustainable and open hub of expertise on all issues related to victims of terrorism. Lists of general and specific pools of experts are set up and accessible by the relevant actors. The EU Centre builds its activities on all available best practices and includes all available expertise - also from third countries.
- Access to information and awareness of the EU rights of victims of terrorism and other relevant data is improved as a result of a comprehensive and user-friendly website of the EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism.
- Evaluation of the necessity and the feasibility of setting up of the EU Coordination Centre for Victims of Terrorism.
- Assistance to the European Commission and the European Network of Victims' Rights is provided in enforcing operational coordination among Member States and victims associations – through identification of authorities responsible for victims' attention and

care in each Member State and through establishment of safe communication channels to exchange information on victims in the event of a terrorist attack.

General description of the contracts envisaged *(study / technical assistance / evaluation / survey / IT / communication services / etc.)*

The envisaged contract will cover several activities:

- drafting research-based guidelines and training programmes, and training activities,
- technical assistance on victims' needs for support and assistance,
- IT and communication services, and
- evaluation.

Type of contract *(new FWC / direct contract / specific contract based on an existing FWC / contract renewal)* and type of procurement *(service / supply / works)*

Direct contract / Service

Indicative number of contracts envisaged

1

Indicative timeframe for launching the procurement procedure

Q1 2019

Total budget available

EUR 1 000 000

Implementation

By DG JUST