



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 7.5.2014
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 7.5.2014

concerning the adoption of a financing decision and a work programme for 2014 for the implementation of the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence" to be financed under budget line 13 03 77 13

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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) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Financial Regulation') and in particular Articles 54(2)(a) and (b) and 84(2) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (hereinafter referred to as the 'Rules of Application') and in particular Article 94(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The objective pursued by the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence" is to provide assistance for Member States who joined in 2004, 2007 and 2013 to start up the process of closing the innovation gap, in order to promote excellence in all regions and Member States of the European Union and to stimulate the early implementation of the Smart Specialisation Strategies, as one of the innovations in the 2014-2020 period.
- (2) In the budget of European Union for 2014, the budgetary authority allocates EUR 1 200 000 to the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence" under budget line 13 03 77 13.
- (3) In accordance with Article 84(2) of the Financial Regulation and Article 94(1) of the Rules of Application, the commitment of expenditure from the budget of the European Union shall be preceded by a financing decision setting out the essential elements of the action involving expenditure and adopted by the institution or the authorities to which powers have been delegated by the institution.
- (4) In accordance with Article 84(3) of the Financial Regulation and Article 94(3) of the Rules of Application, where the implementation of appropriations is provided for by an annual work programme constituting a sufficiently detailed framework, the work programme shall also be considered to be the financing decision for the procurement contracts involved.
- (5) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of the Rules of Application.

- (6) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme for the implementation of the Pilot Project "Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and development funds: the stairway to excellence" for 2014, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

The work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation.

Article 2

The maximum contribution authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the Pilot Project is set at EUR 1 200 000 to be financed from the budget line 13 03 77 13 of the General Budget of the European Union for 2014.

Those appropriations may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Cumulated changes of the allocations to the specific actions covered by the work programme not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution authorised by this Decision are not considered to be substantial provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objective of the work programme.

The authorising officer may adopt such changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and of proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 7.5.2014

For the Commission
Johannes HAHN
Member of the Commission