COMMISSION DECISION

of 24.4.2014

concerning the adoption of a financing decision and work programme for 2014 in the framework and for the implementation of the Preparatory Action "World cities: EU - third countries cooperation on urban development" to be financed under budget line 13 03 77 15
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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)(b) and 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The objective pursued by the preparatory action "World cities: EU - third countries cooperation on urban development" is to promote the exchange of experience and best practice between the European Union and third countries on the theme of territorial development with particular reference to urban development, urban-rural partnership and urban cross-border cooperation in the framework of the partnerships between the Commission and third countries and to co-operate with and assist international organisations in building new regional partnerships in this field.

(2) In the budget of the European Union for 2014, the budgetary authority has allocated EUR 2 000 000 to the preparatory action "World cities: EU - third countries cooperation on urban development" under budget line 13 03 77 15.

(3) In order to ensure implementation of the work programme for 2014 for the preparatory action "World cities: EU - third countries cooperation on urban development", it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme for 2014. Article 94 of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) 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 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.

(4) The choice of the Inter-American Development Bank under indirect management is justified as it is in a unique position to implement the activities envisaged under the URBELAC project due to its expertise in the area of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Evidence that the requirements laid down in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 are fulfilled by the entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of the budget by indirect management has been obtained by the authorising officer by delegation.

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 Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012.

For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The work programme for the implementation of the Preparatory Action "World cities: EU - third countries cooperation on urban development" (hereinafter “the Preparatory Action”) 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 for actions funded from appropriations of the 2014 budget.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum contribution authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the Preparatory action is set at EUR 2 000 000 to be financed from the budget line 13 03 77 15 of the General Budget of the European Union for 2014.

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

Article 3
Indirect management

The budget implementation of tasks related to Action 1 of the Preparatory Action may be entrusted to the Inter-American Development Bank which applies standards offering guarantees equivalent to internationally accepted standards in its accounting, audit, internal control and procurement procedures.
Article 4
Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes of the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the work programme.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt the changes referred to in the first paragraph in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and of proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 24.4.2014

For the Commission
Johannes HAHN
Member of the Commission