



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 26.8.2014
C(2014) 5981 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 26.8.2014

**on the Annual Action Programme 2014 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon to be
financed from the general budget of the European Union**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 26.8.2014

on the Annual Action Programme 2014 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon to be financed from the general budget of the European Union

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

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 action¹ and in particular Article 2 thereof,

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 1605/2002², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Single Strategic Framework in favour of the Republic of Lebanon for the period 2014-2016³, point 3 of which provides for the following priorities: Justice and Security System Reform, Reinforcing social cohesion, promoting economic development and protecting vulnerable groups and Promotion of sustainable and transparent management of energy and natural resources.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument⁴ are to contribute to the protection and sustainable development of maritime resources of Lebanon, improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of Solid Waste Management in the areas of Lebanon most affected by the influx of Syrian refugees and to strengthen the resilience of Lebanon's security institutions to withstand internal and external pressures and shocks, and to reinforce the role they can play as drivers of stability and national cohesion.
- (3) Action entitled "Protection and sustainable development of maritime resources in Lebanon" has, as specific objectives, to i) protect the coastal zones and maritime resources from any environmental degradation by oil and gas and/or land-based sources of pollution; and to ii) recover affected marine ecosystems and develop marine and coastal biodiversity. This will be achieved through four main actions implemented by direct management.
- (4) Action entitled "Upgrading Solid Waste Management capacities in Lebanon" has the specific objective of upgrading the provision of basic services regarding solid waste management. It will do so by establishing environmentally friendly municipal solid

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ C(2014) 5132 of 24.07.2014.

⁴ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 27.

waste management systems in the regions most affected by the influx of Syrian refugees according to national laws and regulations and by a technical assistance to enhance the management and Operation and Maintenance capacities of the targeted municipalities. The action will be implemented by indirect management with the Republic of Lebanon.

- (5) Action entitled “Building National Stability” has the specific objective to improve the institutional capabilities of security agencies to fulfil certain functions in a coordinated and accountable manner. This action will be implemented by direct and indirect management.
- (6) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁵.
- (7) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. However, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development and the United Nations Development Programme are currently undergoing the ex-ante assessment. In anticipation of the results of this review, the responsible authorising officer deems that, based on a preliminary evaluation and on the long-standing and problem-free co-operation with them, budget-implementation tasks can be entrusted to these entities.
- (8) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the partner country identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the Commission responsible authorising officer has ensured that measures have been taken to supervise and support the implementation of the entrusted tasks to the partner country. A description of these measures and the entrusted tasks are laid down in the Annexes to this Decision
- (9) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (10) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').
- (11) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by the basic act referred to in Recital 2,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the measure

⁵ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

The following Annual Action Programme, constituted by the actions identified in the second paragraph and attached as annexes, is approved:

Annual Action Programme 2014 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon.

The actions constituting this measure are:

- Annex 1: “Protection and sustainable development of maritime resources in Lebanon”;
- Annex 2: “Upgrading Solid Waste Management capacities in Lebanon”;
- Annex 3 “Building National Stability”.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of this programme is set at EUR 52 million:

- EUR 40 million to be financed from budget line 21.030102, and
- EUR 12 million to be financed from budget line 21.030103

of the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

Budget-implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the attached Annexes, subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

Section 4 of the Annexes referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

Article 4

Non-substantial changes

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution referred to in Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling referred to in this Article.

The responsible authorising officer may adopt these non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 26.8.2014

For the Commission
Štefan FÜLE
Member of the Commission

