



Brussels, 26.2.2020
C(2020) 1026 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 26.2.2020

**on the financing of the Structural Reform Support Programme and the adoption of the
work programme for 2020 and repealing Commission Implementing Decision
C(2019)8197**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) 1305/2013¹, and in particular Article 13(5) thereof,

Having regard to 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, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Structural Reform Support Programme, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2020. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2017/825, Member States submitted their requests for support by 31 October 2019. Those requests were assessed by the Commission in accordance with the rules established in that Regulation. In addition, a thematic call will be launched in the beginning of 2020 to select requests from Member States for support measures aimed to help the climate and energy transition of their economies towards environmental neutrality.
- (3) This financing decision should repeal Commission Implementing Decision C(2019)8197², which was adopted in order to facilitate the launch of essential procurement procedures, with a view to shortening the time between the submission of requests and the provision of support on the ground.
- (4) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures³ adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.

¹ OJ L 129, 19.05.2017, p. 1

² Commission Implementing Decision C(2019)8197 final of 20.11.2019 on the financing of the Structural Reform Support Programme and the adoption of the work programme for 2020.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu Note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy the OJ prevails.

- (5) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (6) Pursuant to Article 62(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (7) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of the Financial Regulation. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of the Financial Regulation⁴ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (8) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the year 2020, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2020 is set at EUR 84 898 213, and shall be financed from the general budget of the Union, from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line 13.08 01 00: EUR 74 796 233;
- (b) budget line 13.08 02 00: EUR 10 101 980.

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

Article 3
Methods of implementation and entrusted entities or persons

The implementation of the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4 of Part II of that Annex.

⁴ Except for the cases of Article 154(6) of the Financial Regulation, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

Article 4
Flexibility clause and special measures

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objectives of the work programme. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

In accordance with Article 13 (6) of Regulation (EU) 2017/825, a limited part of the maximum Union contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this Decision, not exceeding 5% thereof, may serve to finance special measures in the event of unforeseen and duly justified grounds of urgency requiring an immediate response, including a serious disturbance in the economy or significant circumstances seriously affecting the economic or social conditions in a Member State, which go beyond its control. That shall not be considered to be a substantial change for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.

The authorising officer responsible may apply the changes referred to in the first two paragraphs. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

In case the Annex provides for the possibility to implement the actions through an alternative management mode, a transfer of the corresponding allocation from one mode to another shall not count for the purposes this Article.

Article 5
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annex or selected in accordance with point 2 of Part II of the Annex.

Article 6
Repeal

Commission Implementing Decision C(2019)8197 final is repealed.

Done at Brussels, 26.2.2020

For the Commission
Elisa FERREIRA
Member of the Commission