



Brussels, 7.3.2018
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 7.3.2018

**on the adoption of the work programme for 2018 and on the financing of Structural
Reform Support Programme**

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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) No 1305/2013¹, and in particular Article 13(5) 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) In order to ensure the implementation of the Structural Reform Support Programme it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme for 2018. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012³ establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals under the conditions and for the reasons provided in the work programme for 2018. In accordance with Article 13(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/825, the co-financing rate for grants shall be up to 100% of the eligible costs, without prejudice to the principles of co-financing and no-profit.
- (3) In order to allow for the implementation of certain measures by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), it is necessary to entrust budgetary implementation tasks under indirect management, as provided for in Article 13(2)(e) of Regulation (EU) 2017/825. The authorising officer by delegation has obtained evidence that the entity entrusted with the implementation of the budget by indirect management fulfil the requirements laid down in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.
- (4) It is necessary to allow for the payment of 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.

¹ OJ L 129, 19.05.2017, p. 1.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ 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 (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1).

- (5) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme for 2018, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Work programme

The annual work programme for the implementation of the Structural Reform Support Programme for 2018, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

The annual work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the Programme for the year 2018 is set at EUR 30 500 000, and it shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union for 2018:

(a) budget line 13.0801: EUR 23 644 837

(b) budget line 13.0802: EUR 6 855 163

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 budget implementation tasks related to the actions carried out by way of indirect management, as set out in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entity referred to in point 1.4 of that Annex.

Article 4
Flexibility clause and special measures

Cumulated changes to 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 Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and objective of the work programme.

Up to 5% of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this financing decision 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 going beyond its control.

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

Article 5
Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex.

Done at Brussels, 7.3.2018

For the Commission
Valdis DOMBROVSKIS
Vice-President