



Brussels, 31.7.2013
C(2013) 5040 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 31.7.2013

**on the Annual Action Programme 2013 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon to be
financed from the general budget of the European Union**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument¹ hereinafter referred to as 'the basic act', and in particular Articles 12 which foresees the adoption of this decision 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 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Financial Regulation'), and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Lebanon and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2011-2013³, points 2.3 (sub-priority 3), 2.4 and 2.5 (sub-priority 2) of which provide for the following priorities: support to political reforms, support to social and economic reforms, and support to the recovery and reinvigoration of the economy.
- (2) The objectives pursued by the Annual Action Programme are: to improve the institutional capacity of the Lebanese security system to fulfil its legitimate role in a manner that promotes national cohesion and is consistent with the norms of a democratic State; to support the reform of the National Social Security Fund and of the social security systems; and to rehabilitate 400 dilapidated shelters and to upgrade three primary health centers in the camps for the most vulnerable Palestine refugees.
- (3) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of the 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 Union⁴ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Rules of Application').
- (4) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under joint management (indirect management with an international organisation) to the entities identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a contribution agreement. The responsible authorising officer has ensured that these entities comply with the conditions of Article 53d of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ C(2010)1144 of 02.03.2010.

⁴ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁵ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Financial Regulation 1605/2002') and of Articles 35 and 43 of its Implementing Rules⁶.

- (5) The Commission may entrust budget-implementation tasks under decentralised management (indirect management with the partner country) to the beneficiary third country identified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a financing agreement. The degree of decentralisation foreseen complies with the conditions of Article 53c and 56 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁷ (hereinafter referred to as 'the Financial Regulation 1605/2002').
- (6) 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 the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of the Rules of Application.
- (7) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application 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 'relevant authorising officer').
- (8) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the ENPI Committee set up under Article 26 of the basic act.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the programme

The Annual Action Programme 2013 in favour of the Republic of Lebanon constituted by the actions identified in the second paragraph, is approved.

The actions, the description of which is set out in the attached Annexes I to III , respectively, shall be:

- Support to the Lebanese security sector for stability and national cohesion
- Reinforcing social cohesion in Lebanon
- Improvement of housing and health conditions of the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in Lebanon

Article 2

Financial contribution

⁵ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. These provisions remain applicable until 31 December 2013 according to Article 212 of the Financial Regulation.

⁶ Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities. OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1. These provisions remain applicable until 31 December 2013 according to Article 212 of the Financial Regulation.

⁷ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. These provisions remain applicable until 31 December 2013 according to Article 212 of the Financial Regulation.

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of this programme is set at EUR 22 million to be financed from budget line 19.080101 of the general budget of the European Union for 2013.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

The budget-implementation tasks under decentralised and joint management shall 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 the Rules of Application.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the relevant authorising officer according to Article 190 of the Rules of Application. Where known at the moment of the adoption of this Decision, the reasons for this as well as the potential beneficiaries shall be identified in the attached Annexes.

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 cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20 % of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 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, 31.7.2013

For the Commission
Cecilia MALMSTRÖM
Member of the Commission

ANNEXES

- Support to the Lebanese security sector for stability and national cohesion
- Reinforcing social cohesion in Lebanon
- Improvement of housing and health conditions of the most vulnerable Palestine refugees in Lebanon