



Brussels, 26.7.2024
C(2024) 5377 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 26.7.2024

**amending Implementing Decision C(2023)9021 final as regards the financing of the
annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Armenia for 2023**

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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) 2018/1046¹ 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,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947² of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe, amending and repealing Decision No 466/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009, and in particular Article 23(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) By Commission Implementing Decision of 14.12.2023 C(2023) 9021 final, the Commission adopted the financing of the annual action plan in favour of the Republic of Armenia for 2023, which constitutes the annual work programme for 2023, including two actions.
- (2) It is necessary to modify the two actions contained in this Decision: i) ‘State and Resilience Building Contract for the Republic of Armenia’; ii) ‘Reform and CEPA implementation Facility’ in order to increase the Union contribution by EUR 45 million. This amendment will extend the assistance provided to the Government of Armenia in addressing the medium and longer-term socio-economic needs of the over 100,000 refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh integrating in Armenia, while advancing the implementation of the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and the broader reform process.
- (3) The envisaged assistance should comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU³.
- (4) Therefore, Decision C(2023)9021 final should be amended accordingly.
- (5) The action plan provided for in this Decision should contribute to climate mainstreaming in line with the Commission Communication ‘The European Green

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1046/oj>.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ www.sanctionsmap.eu Please 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 between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

Deal⁴ and in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources⁵.

- (6) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme for Armenia⁶ for the period for the period 2021-2027, which sets out the following priorities: resilient, sustainable, knowledge-based and integrated economy; accountable institutions, rule of law and security; environmental and climate resilience; resilient digital transformation; and resilient, gender equal, fair and inclusive society.
- (7) The objectives pursued by the increase in the budget of the annual action plan to be financed under the Neighbourhood geographic programme of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 are to continue supporting the strengthening of Armenia's societal and economic resilience and advance the Government's reform processes and overall socio-economic development.
- (8) The objective and design of the actions fulfil the criteria for Official Development Assistance (ODA) established by the OECD/DAC, as per the requirements of Article 3(4) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, contributing to the sustainable development of partner countries and the implementation of the 2030 agenda by reinforcing reforms targeting the socio-economic development of Armenia. The countries benefiting from the action which are included in the list of ODA recipients, are identified in the respective action document.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c) of the Financial Regulation, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action plan.
- (10) To ensure the implementation of all specific objectives under the action 'Reform and CEPA implementation Facility', procurement as an option has been included under the Direct Management (Procurement) implementation modality.
- (11) 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.
- (12) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to determine the changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (13) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the NDICI Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Commission Implementing Decision C(2023) 9021 final is amended as follows:

Article 2 is replaced by the following:

⁴ COM(2019)640 final of 11 December 2019.

⁵ OJ L 433I , 22.12.2020, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinstit/2020/1222/oj.

⁶ Commission implementing decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for Armenia for the period 2021-2027 C(2021)9435 on 16.12.2021.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2023 and 2024 is set at EUR 63 000 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 14.02.01.11 Eastern Partnership of the general budget of the Union.

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

In Annex I, point 4.4 is replaced by the following:

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	
	2023	2024
Budget support - cf. section 4.3	15 000 000	25 000 000
Total	40 000 000	

In Annex II, point 4.5 is replaced by the following:

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Third-party contribution, in currency identified
Grants – total envelope under section 4.3.1	3 000 000	N.A.
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.3.2	3 000 000	
Indirect management with a pillar-assessed entity – total envelope under section 4.3.3	16 900 000	TBC
Evaluation – cf. section 5.2 Audit – cf. section 5.3	100 000	N.A.
Strategic communication and Public diplomacy – cf. section 6	will be covered by another Decision	N.A.
Totals	23 000 000	TBC

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 Annexes, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.3 of Annex 2.

Done at Brussels, 26.7.2024

For the Commission

Olivér VÁRHELYI

Member of the Commission