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COMMISSION DECISION

C(2009)8407 of 29/10/2009

on adopting a National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA- Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2009 – Part II

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes, which can be established by country and by component, or, as appropriate, by group of countries or by theme. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) On 18 February 2008, the Council adopted Decision 2008/211/EC² on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the European Partnership with Bosnia and Herzegovina. On 1 July 2009, the Commission adopted a multi-annual indicative planning document 2009 - 2011 for Bosnia and Herzegovina which presents indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to the country concerned³.
- (4) Therefore, and having regard to the project proposals submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina, the National Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA - Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2009 – Part II aims at providing assistance to help the country to meet the political, economic and *acquis* requirements of the accession process. In the area of political criteria, projects will support in particular the judiciary, the constitutional reform process, the preparation of IPA components III and IV, civil society dialogue, cultural heritage, the strengthening of anti-corruption capacities and the national planning capacities. In the area of economic criteria, two projects focus on small and medium sized enterprises and the promotion of labour market competitiveness. To help the country to meet European Standards, projects will further support the economic and fiscal policy, single market integration, census equipment, an agricultural market information system, and the veterinary and phytosanitary services. The programme will also provide financing to enable Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in Community Programmes.

¹ OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

² OJ L 80, 19.3.2008, p. 18.

³ C (2009)5114 of 1 July 2009.

- (5) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002⁴ (hereafter: “Implementing Rules”) and constitutes thus a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 (2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁵ (hereafter: “Financial Regulation”).
- (6) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The National programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2009 – Part II, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by centralised management.

It shall be implemented by means of a Financing Agreement to be concluded between the Commission and Bosnia and Herzegovina in conformity with the Framework Agreement concluded between the same parties on 30 July 2008.

Article 2

The maximum amount of Community contribution shall be **EUR 41.5 million**, to be financed through Article 22.020200 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2009.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

⁴ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

⁵ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.