



Brussels, 13.12.2023
C(2023) 8583 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.12.2023

**on the financing of the annual work programme for 2024 for information outreach and
the promotion of coordination between the Union and Member States on the
humanitarian aid budget**

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 13.12.2023

on the financing of the annual work programme for 2024 for information outreach and the promotion of coordination between the Union and Member States on the humanitarian aid budget

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

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 966/2012¹, and in particular Articles 58(2), point (d), and 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of information outreach and awareness activities on the provision of humanitarian aid and the promotion of coordination between the Union and Member States on humanitarian aid actions, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme for 2024. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance should comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures² adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (3) As provided for in Article 58(2), point (d), the Commission by virtue of tasks resulting from its prerogatives at institutional level pursuant to the TFEU may implement the appropriations without a basic act provided the actions which they are intended to finance fall within the competences of the Union.
- (4) The Commission has underlined³ the importance of informing the public in Member States and third countries of activities carried out in the area of humanitarian aid in order to increase the visibility and understanding of the Union's external action, including the Union's cooperation with international organisations.
- (5) The Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations' (ECHO) field offices play a crucial role in communicating how the Union's policies and results towards third countries and international organisations are implemented, while ensuring the respect of the values referred to in Article 2 TEU.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

² 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.

³ "A Union that Strives for More - My Agenda for Europe by candidate for President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen", [Political Guidelines for the Next European Commission 2019-2024](#), page 17.

- (6) Enhancing communications and public diplomacy capacity is a priority of the Global Strategy for the Union's Foreign and Security Policy⁴ and form an integral part of the Union external communication, notably as regards combatting the increase of disinformation about the Union.
- (7) The overall objective is to proactively support information, communication and public outreach activities and to increase the visibility and understanding when communicating themes having a significant international dimension, which relate to the Union's external action in third countries and with international organisations.
- (8) It is necessary to provide for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the information outreach and promotion of coordination between the Union and Member States on the humanitarian aid budget for 2024, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme for 2024 is set at EUR 2 098 169, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line 14 20 04 03: EUR 1 495 419;
- (b) budget line 14 20 04 05: EUR 602 750.

The appropriations provided for in the first paragraph shall also cover interest due for late payment, where applicable.

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft general budget of the Union for 2024, following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution set in Article 2, first paragraph, of this Decision shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, where

⁴ “Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe - A Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy”, <https://www.iss.europa.eu/content/global-strategy-european-union%E2%80%99s-foreign-and-security-policy>.

those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme.

The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in Article 2, first paragraph, of this Decision shall not exceed EUR 419 633.80.

The authorising officer responsible shall apply the changes referred to in the first paragraph, where applicable. Those changes shall be applied in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 13.12.2023

For the Commission
Janez LENARČIČ
Member of the Commission