



Brussels, 25.4.2022
C(2022) 2486 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 25.4.2022

**amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 on financing emergency
response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2022**

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amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 on financing emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2022

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 Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID19 crisis², and in particular Article 2(2), point (a)(iii) thereof,

Having regard to Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism³, and in particular Article 25(5) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256⁴ established the Union contribution for the implementation of emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism ('UCPM') to be financed from the general budget of the Union for 2022.
- (2) On 16 March 2022 Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 was substantially amended by Commission Implementing Decision C(2022)1746⁵. The total budget of Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 was thus increased to EUR 65 000 000.
- (3) Following the military aggression by Russia against Ukraine of 24 February 2022, the situation in Ukraine keeps deteriorating, as the active armed conflict continues to result in civilian deaths and suffering, massive displacement, large-scale humanitarian needs, and destruction of civilian infrastructure across the country. Despite numerous response challenges, a massive amount of assistance is being channelled through

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924.

³ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924.

⁴ Commission Decision of 16.12.2021 on financing emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2022 (C(2021) 9256 final).

⁵ Commission implementing Decision of 17.03.2022 amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 on financing emergency response actions under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for 2022 (C(2022)1746 final).

the UCPM and it is delivered to Ukraine and to neighbouring countries affected by the unprecedented inflow of people fleeing the war. The number of requests for assistance under the UCPM both from Ukraine, as well as neighbouring countries, continues to increase. It is reported that nearly 3.5 million people have fled from Ukraine through border crossings to Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and it is expected that up to 10 million refugees could enter the Union. The arrival of such a high number of refugees increases risks related to COVID-19. The rate of vaccination against COVID-19 of the fleeing Ukrainians is lower than average in the Union. This puts pressure on national health systems in the context of the possible re-emergence of COVID-19. A quick and effective Union response, notably transport of necessary medical items and vaccines, will enhance the Union wide resilience of health systems and lower the risk of further waves of COVID-19.

- (4) Therefore, in order to respond to current and future emergencies, it is necessary to increase the budgetary allocation provided for in Commission Implementing Decision (2021)9256 by EUR 35 000 000.
- (5) Funding from the European Union Recovery Instrument shall only be used if the following conditions are met for each individual financing decision. The funding shall be used for response measures clearly related to the difficulties faced during the COVID-19 crisis, and that aim to tackle the adverse economic effect of the COVID-19 crisis or the immediate funding needs to avoid a re-emergence of that crisis in the Union or to tackle future major crises of a similar nature, with significant public health consequences. In this context, EUR 5 000 000 made available under Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 and currently allocated to finance UCPM prevention and preparedness activities under Commission Implementing Decision C(2022)961⁶ should be transferred to UCPM response operations covered by this Decision and used exclusively to avoid a re-emergence of COVID-19 within the Union due to the lower COVID-19 vaccination rate than the average Union one of the fleeing Ukrainians.
- (6) The implementation of the emergency response actions is subject to the adoption of budget authority transfer proposal with reference DEC 08/2022 that was submitted to the Budgetary Authority on 23 March 2022. The proposed transfer of EUR 70 million to the UCPM response decision, if adopted, will restore the total amount of credits of the UCPM multiannual work programme 2021-24⁷ offsetting the EUR 40 million previously transferred to the UCPM response decision on the basis of Commission Implementing Decision C(2022)1746 and finance emergency response actions for an amount of EUR 30 million under the present decision.
- (7) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures⁸ adopted pursuant to Article 215 TFEU.
- (8) Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 should therefore be amended accordingly.

⁶ Commission Implementing Decision C(2022)961 on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multi-annual work programme for 2021-2024 and repealing Implementing Decision C(2021)935

⁷ Commission Implementing Decision of 21.02.2022 on the financing of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adopting a multi-annual work programme for 2021-2024 and repealing Implementing Decision C(2021)935final (C(2022)961final).

⁸ 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.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Commission Implementing Decision C(2021)9256 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 2 is replaced by the following:

*‘Article 2
Union contribution*

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the emergency response actions for 2022 is set at EUR 100 000 000 and shall be financed from the following budget items of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU): EUR 95 000 000
- (b) budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) from funds made available under the European Union Recovery Instrument (Next Generation EU): EUR 5 000 000.

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the budget authority transfer DEC 08/2022, following its adoption by the Budgetary Authority.

*Article 2a
COVID-19 funding*

The Union contribution to be funded from budget line 06.0501 - Union Civil Protection Mechanism (rescEU) from funds made available under the European Union Recovery Instrument (Next Generation EU) shall be used exclusively for measures clearly related to the difficulties faced during the COVID-19 crisis, and that aim to tackle the adverse economic effects of the COVID-19 crisis, or the immediate funding needs to avoid a re-emergence of that crisis in the Union, or to tackle future major crises of a similar nature, with significant public health consequences. Funding of activities in third countries or benefitting third countries is only possible where those activities increase the preparedness of the Union for the crisis at issue.

- (2) The Annex is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 25.4.2022

*For the Commission
Janez LENARČIČ
Member of the Commission*