



Brussels, 30.10.2024
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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 30.10.2024

**on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of Brunei Darussalam, Japan and
Taiwan for 2024**

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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) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/947 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 and Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 480/2009², and in particular Article 23(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of Brunei Darussalam, Japan and Taiwan for 2024, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2024. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('the Financial Regulation') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union³.
- (3) The actions provided for in this Decision should contribute to climate mainstreaming in line with the 'The European Green Deal'⁴ and in the Inter-institutional 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.
- (4) The Commission has adopted the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Asia Pacific region for the period 2021-2027⁶, which sets out the following priorities: green deal; digital agenda; sustainable jobs and sustainable growth; migration; forced

¹ OJ L 239, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

² OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p.1.

³ See 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.

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

⁵ OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.

⁶ Commission Implementing Decision adopting a multiannual indicative programme for the Asia Pacific region for the period 2021-2027, C(2021)9251 final of 15.12.2021.

displacement and mobility; peace and security, governance and rule of law; and multilateralism.

- (5) The objectives pursued by the annual action plan to be financed under the Regulation (EU) 2021/947 geographic programme ‘Asia and the Pacific’ are to address global challenges, in particular climate change, biodiversity, green, digital and resilient supply chains, as well promote EU values and interests, and support multilateralism, and EU trade and investments with key partners in the region. The objectives of this plan will be pursued in a direction consistent with the external dimension of the European Green Deal, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the EU’s geopolitical priorities, in line with the EU strategy for the Indo-Pacific and related areas of the Global Gateway.
- (6) The action entitled **“EU-Japan Policy Support Facility”** aims to contribute to the advancement of EU-Japan relations in key priority areas in line with the strategic framework represented by the EU-Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement and other relevant bilateral agreements.
- (7) The action entitled **“EU-Japan Intellectual Property Action”** aims to facilitate trade in intellectual property (IP) intensive products between the EU and Japan, through effective cooperation in areas of common interest and greater alignment with existing European intellectual property rights policies, including on new technologies and specific challenges where new IP policies and rules may be developed.
- (8) The action entitled **“EU-Brunei Darussalam Partnership Facility – Phase 2”** aims to improve the European Union’s role as a global player and a strategic partner in South-East Asia by strengthening the EU-Brunei Darussalam relationships.
- (9) The action entitled **“European Business and Regulatory Cooperation Programme in Taiwan”** aims to deepen the EU’s trade and economic ties with Taiwan, notably to promote EU regulatory regimes and solutions, reduce barriers to market access for EU producers and exporters, as well as to promote the EU investment environment, industrial cooperation and talent exchanges.
- (10) Pursuant to NDICI-Global Europe Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947 indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the action referred to in paragraph 7.
- (11) Pursuant to Article 62(1), point (c), of the Financial Regulation and Article 26(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/947, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of actions set out in the Annex II.
- (12) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regard to persons and entities entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 157(3) of the Financial Regulation.

To that end, and before a contribution agreement can be signed, such persons and entities are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 157(4) of the Financial Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 157(5) of the Financial Regulation.

- (13) 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.

- (14) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the action plan, it is appropriate to determine changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation.
- (15) The action plan provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the NDICI-Global Europe Committee established under Article 45 of Regulation (EU) 2021/947.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The action plan

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual action plan for the implementation of the annual action plan in favour of Brunei Darussalam, Japan and Taiwan for 2024, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The action plan shall include the following actions:

- (a) “EU-Japan Policy Support Facility” set out in Annex I;
- (b) “EU-Japan Intellectual Property Action” set out in Annex II;
- (c) “EU-Brunei Darussalam Partnership Facility – Phase 2” set out in Annex III;
- (d) “European Business and Regulatory Cooperation Programme in Taiwan” set out in Annex IV.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the action plan for 2024 is set at EUR 4 900 000, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line BGUE-B2024-14.020131 of the general budget of the Union.

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

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 Annex II, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 4.3.1 of the Annex II.

Article 4
Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes⁷ to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution, as well as extensions of the implementation period shall not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial

⁷ These changes can come from assigned revenue made available after the adoption of the financing decision.

Regulation, where these changes do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions.

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

Done at Brussels, 30.10.2024

For the Commission
Josep BORRELL FONTELLES
High Representative / Vice-President