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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 1.8.2019

**on the Multiannual action programme 2019-2020 for the Instrument contributing to
Stability and Peace - Conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness
component to be financed from the general budget of the European Union**

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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) 2018/1046 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 Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action², and in particular Article 6(3)(a) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace³, and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the multiannual action programme 2019-2020 for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace - Conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which constitutes the multiannual work programme, for 2019 and 2020. Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 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 TFEU⁴.
- (3) The Commission has adopted the Strategy Paper 2014-2020 for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace⁵ identifying five priorities for actions in the areas of conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness, as provided for in

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.

² OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95.

³ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 1.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision C(2014)5607 final of 11 August 2014 adopting the Thematic Strategy Paper 2014-2020 and accompanying Multiannual indicative Programme 2014-2017 of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace.

Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 230/2014: promoting early warning and conflict-sensitive risk analysis in policy making and the implementation of policy; facilitating and building capacity in confidence-building, mediation, dialogue and reconciliation, with particular regard to emerging inter-community tensions; strengthening capacities for participation and deployment in civilian stabilisation missions; improving post-conflict recovery as well as post-disaster recovery with relevance to the political and security situation; curbing the use of natural resources to finance conflicts and supporting compliance by stakeholders with initiatives such as the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, especially as regards the implementation of efficient domestic controls over the production of, and trade in, natural resources.

- (4) As provided for in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 230/2014, the Commission adopted the multiannual indicative programme MIP for the period 2018-2020 on 22 October 2018.
- (5) The objectives pursued by the annual action programme to be financed under the Instrument contributing to stability and peace⁶ are to support measures building and strengthening the capacity of the Union and its partners to prevent conflict, build peace and address pre- and post-crisis needs in close co-ordination with international, regional and sub-regional organisations, state and civil society actors.
- (6) The action entitled “Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building, crisis preparedness” aims to support, as already done under the 2010 to 2018 AAPs, in-country civil society actors globally in their endeavours to prevent conflicts and build peace, via calls for proposals for civil society-led actions focused on four thematic priorities relating to both long-term and short-term conflict prevention and peacebuilding activity: Mediation, dialogue and confidence-building measures, Natural resources and conflicts; Media and conflicts; Transitional justice and peace-building. It will be implemented through direct management via grant agreements.
- (7) The action entitled “Support to the Civil Society Dialogue Network on conflict prevention and peace-building (CSDN) IV” aims to continue supporting and further strengthening an EU-level dialogue platform on conflict prevention and peace-building between EU decision-makers and civil society actors. In line with the Global Strategy commitment to deepen EU partnerships with civil Society, the Action will build upon the positive results and lessons learned from the eight-year long cooperation with the European Peace-Building Liaison Office (EPLO) in building and strengthening the so-called "Civil Society Dialogue Network" as a robust EU-level dialogue mechanism between EU decision-makers and civil society actors on conflict prevention and peace-building issues. It will be implemented via the award of a direct grant to EPLO.
- (8) The action entitled “Enhancing EU's early warning capacities by bridging the warning-response gap” aims to enhance the EU’s conflict prevention capacities by enabling policy-makers across the EU to identify and act upon conflict risks before they lead to violence. The action will harness civil society organisations’ technical expertise and networks at field level to support the production and dissemination of independent expert early warning information and to foster forward-looking

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an instrument contributing to stability and peace, OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 1.

exchanges on early action options. The action will be implemented through direct management via a grant agreement.

- (9) The action entitled “European Resources for Mediation Support (ERMES) IV” aims at facilitating EU support to third parties engaged in inclusive peace mediation and dialogue processes at the international, regional or local levels, with a view to contributing to conflict prevention and resolution, by inter alia providing technical assistance and training, organising meetings and seminars to create an environment conducive to conflict resolution. The Action builds on the successful experience of "ERMES I, II and the current ERMES III funded under AAP 2013, 2016 and 2017 of, first, the Instrument for Stability and then the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace with more than 70 assignments in support of peace mediation activities worldwide. This action will be implemented through direct management via the procurement of services.
- (10) The action entitled “Capacity Building for Civilian Crisis Management (CBCCM)” aims at better enabling staff in the European Union (EU), Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations (UN), African Union (AU) and other crisis management and stabilisation-type missions to work in a more efficient, effective and sustainable manner in order to achieve their missions’ mandates. The Action builds on the unique capacity-building programme ENTRi (Europe's new Training Initiative) initiated in early 2011 under the 2010 Annual Action Programme of the Instrument for Stability and continued until 2019 which focused on the preparation and training of civilians, from EU Member States and third countries, for their participation in crisis management missions worldwide. The action will be implemented in close collaboration with the EU Civilian Training Group (EU CTG) and its National Training Experts as well as the European Security and Defence College (ESDC). This action will be implemented via direct management via a grant agreement.
- (11) The action entitled “Provision of expertise to support security sector governance and reform – Phase II” aims to ensure that Security Sector Reform (SSR) processes supported by the EU strengthen effective, inclusive and legitimate institutions and address the long-term needs of women, men, boys and girls in conflict, post-conflict and fragile countries, in line with the EU-Wide Strategic Framework on SSR support. The action will provide technical expertise to ensure that the principles of the EU SSR Framework underpin EU support in partner countries. This action builds on the success of and lessons learned from the first phase of the European Union Security Sector Governance Facility and aims to continue to provide technical expertise to promote good governance and human security. The action will be implemented through direct management via the procurement of services.
- (12) The action entitled “Support to Recovery and Peace Building Assessments and Post-Disaster Needs Assessments” aims to support third countries in building up their capacity to carry out Recovery and Peace Building Assessments (RPBA) and Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA), through the provision of technical expertise and capacity-building actions. The action builds on several successful earlier phases of collaboration supporting the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Post-Crisis Assessments and Recovery Planning signed by the UN, the World Bank (WB) and the EU in 2008. This action will continue the support to affected countries through the provision of in-country expertise to assessment missions, capacity building of national governments and regional inter-governmental organisations, refinement of assessment

methodologies and further development of operational tools. It will also support coordination efforts to enhance the tripartite cooperation (EU-UN-WB). The action will be implemented through procurement of services and indirect management through a Delegation agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

- (13) The action entitled “Promoting responsible mineral supply chains in conflict-affected and high-risk areas – phase III” aims to contribute to peace-building and stabilisation efforts of and within mineral-rich fragile areas through the promotion of responsible sourcing and trading of minerals. The Action builds on the successful implementation of two previous phases, promoting responsible sourcing and trading of minerals through the dissemination, adoption and use of the "OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas". The implementation of the due diligence guidance represents an important element for stabilisation in conflict, post-conflict and high-risk areas minimising the contribution of business to conflict and serious human rights abuses associated with mineral production and trade. This action will be implemented through direct management via a delegation agreement with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- (14) The action entitled “Women as Actors in Peace Processes” aims to strengthen the qualitative inclusion of women in peace and transition processes by focusing on key process and context factors for women’s inclusion in peace processes. This will be achieved by supporting women involved in negotiations and consultations and those mediators who have the capacity to include gender aspects on the agenda and in peace agreements. The action will also explore the possibilities of mentorship as a means to increase women’s inclusion. This action will be implemented through direct management via a grant agreement.
- (15) The action entitled “Enabling university peace education in regional conflict/post-conflict settings” aims to contribute to building the future generation of local peacebuilders and mediators by increasing the participation of young people in local, national and/or regional peacebuilding activities. In particular, the action will promote regional cooperation among higher education institutions for peace education, both at the formal and non-formal levels, will promote the development, availability and accessibility of local university peace education and ultimately will facilitate building a future generation of university-trained local peacebuilders. The action will be implemented through direct management via a delegation agreement.
- (16) The action entitled “Social Media for Peace” aims to promote a multi-stakeholder collaboration between social media platforms, internet governance and regulatory bodies, conflict prevention and peacebuilding organisations at country and global levels to monitor, analyse and tackle harmful online content (hate speech, violent extremist propaganda and disinformation) in conflict-affected countries. This action will also aim to harness the potential of social media platforms and of digital technologies like ‘big data’ and artificial intelligence to promote counter narratives, positive messaging and to support peacebuilding initiatives in conflict-affected contexts. The action will be implemented in indirect management via a Contribution agreement.
- (17) The action entitled “Support to the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund” aims to contribute to more concerted and coherent international efforts to prevent conflict and

build peace strengthening the strategic EU-UN partnership on peace-building and supporting the UN Peace Building Fund (PBF), the United Nations' financial instrument of first resort to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk of or affected by violent conflict. The action will be implemented in indirect management via a Contribution agreement.

- (18) The action entitled "Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Crisis Preparedness support measures" aims to contribute to the identification, formulation, evaluation and implementation of actions under Article 4 "Assistance for conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness" of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP). The action will be implemented through direct and indirect management via the procurement of services, grant agreements or delegation agreements.
- (19) The Commission should acknowledge and accept contributions from other donors in accordance with Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (20) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants.
- (21) The Commission should authorise the eligibility of costs as of a date preceding that of the submission of a grant application, which is prior to the date of adoption of this Decision, for reasons of extreme urgency in crisis management aid or in other exceptional and duly substantiated emergencies, whereby an early engagement by the Union would be of major importance.
- (22) Pursuant to Article 4(7) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014, indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the multiannual action programme 2019-2020.
- (23) The Commission is to ensure a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union with regards to entities and persons entrusted with the implementation of Union funds by indirect management as provided for in Article 154(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (24) To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 154(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (25) It is necessary to allow the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046.
- (26) The multiannual action programme 2019-2020 for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace - Conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness provided for in this Decision is in accordance with the opinion of the Stability and Peace Instrument Committee established under Article 11 of Regulation (EU) No 230/2014.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The programme

The multiannual action programme 2019-2020 for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace - Conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness component, as set out in the Annexes, is adopted.

The programme shall include the following actions:

- (1) Support to in-country civil society actors in conflict prevention, peace-building, crisis preparedness as set out in Annex I;
- (2) Support to the Civil Society Dialogue Network on conflict prevention and peace-building (CSDN) IV as set out in Annex II;
- (3) Enhancing EU's early warning capacities by bridging the warning-response gap as set out in Annex III;
- (4) European Resources for Mediation Support (ERMES) IV as set out in Annex IV;
- (5) Capacity Building for Civilian Crisis Management (CBCCM), as set out in Annex V;
- (6) Provision of expertise to support security sector governance and reform – Phase II as set out in Annex VI;
- (7) Support to Recovery and Peace Building Assessments and Post-Disaster Needs Assessments as set out in Annex VII;
- (8) Promoting responsible mineral supply chains in conflict-affected and high-risk areas – phase III as set out in Annex VIII;
- (9) Women as Actors in Peace Processes as set out in Annex IX;
- (10) Enabling university peace education in regional conflict/post-conflict settings as set out in Annex X;
- (11) Social Media for Peace as set out in Annex XI;
- (12) Support to the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund as set out in Annex XII;
- (13) Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Crisis Preparedness support measures as set out in Annex XIII.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme is set at EUR 62 200 000 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) budget line 19.02.02.00: EUR 27 000 000 (general budget for 2019)
- (b) budget line 19.02.02.00: EUR 35 200 000 (general budget for 2020)

The financial contribution 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 draft budget of the Union for 2020, following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority.

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 5.3 of the Annexes VII, VIII, X, XI, XII.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20 % of the contribution set by the first paragraph of Article 2, considering each financial year separately, 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, provided that they 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.

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

Article 5

Grants

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annexes. Grants may be awarded to the bodies referred to in the Annexes II, III, V, VII, VIII, X, XI, and XII.

Done at Brussels, 1.8.2019

For the Commission
Federica MOGHERINI
Vice-President

