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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 17.11.2023**

**awarding a financial contribution from the European Union Solidarity Fund to finance  
emergency and recovery operations following the earthquakes in Türkiye in February  
2023**

**CCI 2023TR16SPO001**

**(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 4(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 20 April 2023, Türkiye submitted an application for a financial contribution from the European Union Solidarity Fund (hereafter: ‘EUSF’) to finance emergency and recovery operations following the earthquakes in February 2023.
- (2) Türkiye is a country involved in accession negotiations with the European Union and it is therefore an eligible State that can request assistance from the EUSF pursuant to Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002.
- (3) The disaster qualifies as a ‘major natural disaster’ within the meaning of Article 2(1), first subparagraph, point (a), of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 as the threshold specified in Article 2(2) of that Regulation is exceeded.
- (4) The application was submitted within the twelve-week period after the first occurrence of damage caused by the disaster on 6 February 2023 and contains all the information required under Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002.
- (5) On the basis of the assessment carried out in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, the Commission has concluded that the conditions for providing a financial contribution from the EUSF are met. The Commission has determined the amount of the financial contribution from the EUSF at EUR 400 000 000.
- (6) In accordance with Article 9(3) of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093<sup>2</sup>, the budgetary authority has entered in the budget the appropriations required to finance the contribution from the EUSF.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund (OJ L 311, 14.11.2002, p. 3) as amended by Regulation (EU) No 661/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council of 15 May 2014 (OJ L 189, 27.6.2014, p. 143) and by Regulation (EU) 2020/461 of the European Parliament and the Council of 30 March 2020 (OJ L 99, 31.3.2020, p. 9).

<sup>2</sup> Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027 (OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 11).

- (7) Pursuant to Article 4(4) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, this Decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>3</sup>.
- (8) It is appropriate to fix the date from which expenditure for emergency and recovery operations is eligible in accordance with Article 4(5) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, the payment of the financial contribution from the EUSF should be subject to a delegation agreement concluded between the Commission and Türkiye laying down detailed provisions for the implementation of the financial contribution (hereafter: ‘the Agreement’).
- (10) In accordance with Article 5(6) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, Türkiye should designate bodies responsible for the management and financial control of the actions supported by the EUSF.
- (11) In accordance with Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, Türkiye should present an implementation report to the Commission, accompanied by an opinion of an independent audit body.
- (12) The financial contribution from the EUSF should therefore be awarded,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

- 1. A financial contribution of EUR 400 000 000 from the EUSF is awarded to Türkiye to finance essential emergency and recovery operations in accordance with Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 and specified in the delegation agreement concluded with Türkiye for the implementation of the financial contribution from the EUSF as referred to in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 (hereafter ‘the Agreement’).
- 2. Interest gained on the financial contribution shall be treated as part of that contribution.

#### *Article 2*

The Commission shall pay the contribution referred to in Article 1 to Türkiye once the Agreement is concluded by the Commission and Türkiye in accordance with Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002.

#### *Article 3*

The eligibility period for expenditure of the operations referred to in Article 1 begins on 6 February 2023, which corresponds to the date on which the first damage caused by the disaster occurred.

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<sup>3</sup> 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 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

#### *Article 4*

The implementation of the financial contribution shall be coordinated and carried out by the authorities designated in Article 4 of the Agreement and the corresponding Annex II of the Agreement, in their respective fields of competence.

#### *Article 5*

1. No later than twenty-four months of the date of the disbursement of the full amount of assistance, Türkiye shall present to the Commission the implementation report referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 with a statement justifying the expenditure. A model for that statement is set out in Annex III to the Agreement.
2. The implementation report shall be accompanied by an opinion of an independent audit body on whether the report gives a true and fair view of the contribution, the expenditure incurred is legal and regular in accordance with Article 8(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 and whether the management and control system put in place has functioned properly. The audit body designated in point 3 of Annex II to the Agreement shall be responsible for establishing the opinion.

#### *Article 6*

This Decision shall be implemented by the Agreement to be concluded between the Commission and Türkiye.

Done at Brussels, 17.11.2023

*For the Commission*  
*Elisa FERREIRA*  
*Member of the Commission*