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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 27.11.2008  
C(2008) 7406 final

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 27.11.2008**

**on the joint operational programme "Black Sea 2007-2013" for the ENPI Cross-Border Co-operation 2007-2013 to be financed under Article 19 08 02 01 and 19 08 02 02 of the general budget of the European Communities.**

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**on the joint operational programme "Black Sea 2007-2013" for the ENPI Cross-Border Co-operation 2007-2013 to be financed under Article 19 08 02 01 and 19 08 02 02 of the general budget of the European Communities.**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) N° 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument<sup>1</sup>, and in particular titles II, III and IV and articles 6(1)(b), 9 and 12(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Cross-Border Co-operation Strategy Paper<sup>2</sup> and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2007/2010, which indicates the priorities of 1) promoting economic and social development in regions on both sides of common borders, 2) working together to address common challenges, in fields such as the environment, public health and the prevention of and the fight against organised crime, 3) ensuring efficient and secure borders and 4) promoting local cross border "people-to-people" actions.
- (2) The Commission has adopted the implementing rules for cross-border cooperation programmes financed under Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument<sup>3</sup>.

The overall objective of the joint operational programme "Black Sea 2007-2013" is to achieve stronger regional partnerships and cooperation by contributing to a stronger and more sustainable economic and social development of the regions of the Black Sea Basin in line with the EU regional policy applicable to the area: the Black Sea Synergy".

The objective will be pursued taking into account the principles of sharing common values, the promotion of equal opportunities, especially the reduction of gender discrimination and the promotion of women's contribution to economic and social development, the improvement of the environmental sustainability of human

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> PE/2007/294, C/2007/672

<sup>3</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 951/2007, OJ L 210/10, 10.08.2007

activities, in particular those with a regional impact, and the promotion of cultural integration and reciprocal understanding of communities within the Black Sea Basin.

- (3) The programme will focus on three priorities for co-operation in the geographic area concerned: 1. Support for partnership for economic development with a specific focus on support to local initiatives aimed at the creation of a favourable environment for SMEs and public initiatives and how to address some of the most relevant threats like the migration of most skilled workers to EU-industrialized countries. 2. Networking resources and competencies for environmental protection and conservation to address common challenges by increased relations between South and North coastal regions of Black and to fight the threats and weaknesses. 3. Promoting cultural and educational initiatives for the creation of common cultural environment among local institutions in the region that will address the weaknesses of the low-level administrative capacity for implementation of local development policies and the challenges of migration and the risks of conflicts.
- (4) The present decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>4</sup> and Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>5</sup>.
- (5) The present decision covers any possible interest due for late payment on the basis of articles 83 of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and 106(5) of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002.
- (6) The Commission is required to define the term “substantial change” in the meaning of Article 90 (4) of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 to ensure that any substantial change in this decision shall follow the same procedure as the initial decision.

**HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:**

*Article 1*

The joint operational programme "Black Sea 2007-2013" for the ENPI Cross-Border Co-operation 2007-2013, the text which is set out in the Annex, is approved.

*Article 2*

The maximum contribution of the Community for the period 2007-2013 is set at EUR 17 305 944. This amount includes EUR 8 652 948 and EUR 8 652 996 respectively financed from budget lines 19 08 02 01 and 19 08 02 02 of the general budget of the European Communities.

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<sup>4</sup> OJEU L 248 of 16.09.2002 p. 1. Regulation last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No1995/2006 (OJEU L 390, 30.12.2006, p.1) ) and by Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1525/2007 of 17 December 2007 (OJ L 343, 27.12.2007, p.9).

<sup>5</sup> OJEU L 357 of 31.12.2002, p.1. Regulation last amended by Regulation (CE, Euratom) No 478/2007 (OJEU L 111, 28.04.2007, p.13).

The maximum contribution of the Community for 2008 is set at EUR 2 378 974 (i.e. EUR 1 189 348 under the budget line 19 08 02 01 and EUR 1 189 626 under the budget line 19 08 02 02).

The corresponding tranches will be committed on a yearly basis.

This decision shall also cover any possible interest due for late payment.

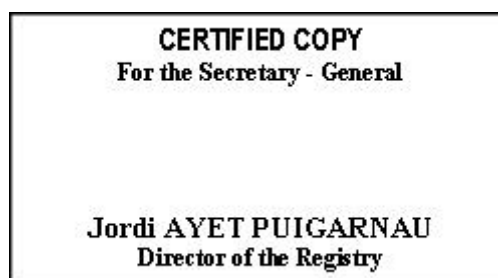
### *Article 3*

Within the global indicative budget of all the specific actions, the adjustments as indicated in Article 7 of the Regulation (EC) 951/2007 of the European Commission shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the joint operational programme "Black Sea 2007-2013".

The authorising officer may introduce non substantial changes to the Programme in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 27.11.2008.

*For the Commission*  
*Benita FERRERO-WALDNER*  
*Member of the Commission*



**ANNEX**

The joint operational programme "Black Sea 2007-2013"