



Brussels, 28.3.2018
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COMMISSION DECISION

of 28.3.2018

**concerning the adoption of the annual work programme and the financing of the
Hercule III Programme in 2018**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 250/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014¹ establishing a programme² to promote activities in the field of the protection of the financial interests of the European Union (Hercule III Programme) and repealing Decision No 804/2004/EC, in particular Article 11 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules³ applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Financial Regulation'), and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Hercule III Programme, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and work programme for 2018. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012⁴ (hereinafter referred to as the 'Rules of Application') establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 *The work programme*

The annual work programme for implementing the Hercule III Programme in 2018 as set out in the Annex is adopted.

The annual work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation.

¹ OJ L 84, 20 March 2014, p. 6.

² Hereinafter referred to as the 'Hercule III Programme'.

³ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1, as amended by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2015/1929 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 October 2015, OJ L 286, 30.10.2015.

⁴ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1, as amended by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/2462 of 30 October 2015, OJ L 342 of 29.12.2015.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum contribution for implementation of the Programme in 2018 is set at EUR 15 347 500 and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line 24.02.01 of the general budget of the Union for 2018.

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

Article 3
Flexibility clause

Cumulative changes to the allocations for the specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial within the meaning of Article 94(4) of the Rules of Application, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programme.

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, 28.3.2018

For the Commission
Günther OETTINGER
Member of the Commission