



Brussels, 9.2.2022
C(2022) 646 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 9.2.2022

**on the financing of Electronic Communications actions and the adoption of the work
programme for 2022**

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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,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the work programme in the field of Electronic Communications, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision, which constitutes the annual work programme, for 2022.
- (2) In accordance with Article 58(2)(d) and Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision to support the multi-stakeholder approach to Internet governance and its main global instance the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), both in furtherance of the specific powers conferred on the Commission under the Treaties pursuant to Article 171(2) TFEU and to underpin the Digital Single Market pursuant to Article 26 TFEU. The work of the Internet Governance Forum is supported by the IGF Secretariat, whose activities are funded through extra-budgetary contributions paid to a multi-donor Trust Fund administered by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in which the funds are not earmarked for specific items or categories of expenditure. The Commission has contributed to the operation of the IGF Secretariat, on behalf of the Union, since its inception and should pursue that contribution and, where necessary, increase that contribution to improve the functioning of the IGF and better support the work of the multi-stakeholder community.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 62(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation indirect management is to be used for the implementation of the programme.
- (4) 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 the Financial Regulation. 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 the Financial Regulation and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

- (5) 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.
- (6) In order to allow for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme, it is appropriate to allow changes which should not be considered substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of the Financial Regulation,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The annual financing decision, constituting the annual work programme for the implementation of the Union's policy in the field of Electronic Communications for year 2022, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the programme 2022 is set at EUR 2 948 274, shall be financed from the appropriations entered in budget line: 02 20 04 03 of the general budget of the Union for 2022.

The appropriations 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 general budget of the Union for 2022, following the adoption of that budget by the budgetary authority or as provided for in the system of provisional twelfths.

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 Annex, may be entrusted to the entities or persons referred to or selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 3 of that Annex.

Article 4

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to 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 110(5) of the Financial Regulation, 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, 9.2.2022

For the Commission
Thierry BRETON
Member of the Commission