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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject:	COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Cyprus

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of …

amending Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021
on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Cyprus

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility[1], and in particular Article 20(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

[1] OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17.

Whereas:

(1) Following the submission of the national recovery and resilience plan ('RRP') by Cyprus on 17 May 2021, the Commission has proposed its positive assessment to the Council. On 28 July 2021, the Council approved the positive assessment by means of an implementing decision ('the Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021')[2]. The Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 was amended on 8 December 2023[3].

(2) On 25 June 2024, Cyprus made a reasoned request to the Commission to make a proposal to amend the Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 in accordance with Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 on the grounds that the RRP is partially no longer achievable because of objective circumstances. On that basis, Cyprus has submitted an amended RRP.

Amendments based on Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241

(3) The amendments to the RRP submitted by Cyprus because of objective circumstances concern one measure.

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[2] See documents ST 10686/21 and ST 10686/21 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu.

[3] See documents ST 15571/23, ST 15571/23 ADD 1 and ST 15571/23 ADD 1 COR 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu.

(4) Cyprus has explained one measure is partially no longer achievable, because of lack of demand. This concerns milestone 85 and milestone 86 of measure C3.1R1 (Move agricultural practices from the 20th century to the 21st century by investing in a national centre for excellence in agri-tech) under component C3.1 (New growth model and diversification of the economy). Cyprus has explained that the proposed amendment is due to the limited interest from academia in developing programmes in the field of biotechnology. On this basis, Cyprus has requested that the aforementioned milestones and the description of the measure be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(5) The Commission considers that the reasons put forward by Cyprus justify the amendments pursuant to Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241. The Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

Commission's assessment

(6) The Commission has assessed the amended RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

(7) The Commission considers that the amendments put forward by Cyprus do not affect the positive assessment of the RRP set out in the Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 regarding the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

Positive assessment

(8) Following the positive assessment by the Commission of the amended RRP with the finding that the RRP satisfactorily complies with the criteria for assessment set out in Regulation (EU) 2021/241, in accordance with Article 20(2) of and Annex V to that Regulation, the reforms and investment projects necessary for the implementation of the amended RRP, the relevant milestones, targets and indicators, and the amount made available from the Union for the implementation of the amended RRP in the form of non-repayable financial support should be set out.

Financial contribution

(9) The estimated total cost of Cyprus's amended RRP is EUR 1 220 971 974. As the amount of the estimated total cost of the amended RRP is higher than the updated maximum financial contribution available for Cyprus, the total financial contribution determined in accordance with Article 20(4), Article 21a(6) and Article 21b(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 allocated for Cyprus's amended RRP should be equal to EUR 1 020 223 681.

Loans

(10) The loan support made available to Cyprus amounting to EUR 200 320 000 remains unchanged.

(11) The Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 should therefore be amended accordingly. For the sake of clarity, the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 should be replaced entirely,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Council Implementing Decision of 28 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Cyprus is amended as follows:

(1) Article 1 is replaced by the following:

‘*Article 1*
Approval of the assessment of the RRP

The assessment of the amended RRP of Cyprus on the basis of the criteria provided for in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 is approved. The reforms and investment projects under the RRP, the arrangements and timetable for the monitoring and implementation of the RRP, including the relevant milestones and targets and the additional milestones and targets related to the payment of non-repayable financial support and the loan, the relevant indicators relating to the fulfilment of the envisaged milestones and targets, and the arrangements for providing full access by the Commission to the underlying relevant data are set out in the Annex to this Decision.’;

(2) the Annex is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Republic of Cyprus.

Done at …, …

For the Council
The President