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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending the Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Estonia

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of ...

**amending the Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021
on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Estonia**

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 Facility¹, 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, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/241/oj>.

Whereas:

- (1) Following the submission of the national recovery and resilience plan ('RRP') by Estonia on 18 June 2021, the Commission proposed its positive assessment to the Council. On 29 October 2021, the Council approved the positive assessment by means of an implementing decision² (the 'Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021'). The Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 was amended by the Council Implementing Decisions of 16 June 2023³, 13 November 2025⁴ and 10 March 2026⁵.
- (2) On 29 May 2026, Estonia made a reasoned request to the Commission to make a proposal to amend the Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 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, Estonia has submitted an amended RRP.

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

- (3) The amendments to the RRP submitted by Estonia because of objective circumstances concern 14 measures.

² See documents ST 12532/21, ST 12532/21 ADD 1, ST 12532/21 ADD 1 COR 1 and ST 12532/21 ADD 1 COR 1 REV 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

³ See documents ST 9367/23 and ST 9367/23 ADD 1 REV 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

⁴ See documents ST 14442/25 and ST 14442/25 ADD 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

⁵ See documents ST 6468/26, ST 6468/26 COR1 and ST 6468/26 ADD 1 at <http://register.consilium.europa.eu>.

- (4) Estonia has explained that two measures have been amended to implement better alternatives in order to achieve their original ambition. This concerns measure 1.4 (Skills reform for the digital transformation of businesses) and measure 6.1 (A comprehensive change in the organisation of health care in Estonia). On that basis, Estonia has requested that those measures be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 should be amended accordingly.
- (5) Estonia has explained that 12 measures have been amended to implement better alternatives that allow the administrative burden to be reduced, while still achieving the objectives of those measures. This concerns measures 1.1 (Digital transformation in enterprises), 1.3 (Development of digital waybills services), 1.5 (Supporting the competitiveness of enterprises in foreign markets), 2.2 (Green skills to support the green transition of enterprises), 2.3 (Green technologies development programme), 2.4 (Modernisation of the business models in manufacturing companies), 4.2 (Support for the renovation of multi-apartment buildings), 4.3 (Support for the renovation of small residential buildings), 4.6 (Programme to boost energy production in industrial areas), 4.7 (Pilot Energy Storage Programme), 5.3.a (Construction of the Rail Baltic viaducts and terminal) and 8.3 (Increasing production and uptake of sustainable biogas and biomethane). On that basis, Estonia has requested that those measures be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 should be amended accordingly.

Corrections of clerical errors

- (6) Three clerical errors have been identified in the text of the Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021, affecting three measures. The Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 should be amended to correct these clerical errors that do not reflect the content of the RRP submitted to the Commission on 18 June 2021, as agreed between the Commission and Estonia. Those clerical errors relate to the description of measure 3.8 (Construction of very high capacity broadband networks), the description of measure 5.3.b (Renovation of a section of the railway from Rapla to Lelle) and the description of measure 6.6 (Providing labour market measures to reduce youth unemployment). Those corrections do not affect the implementation of the measures concerned.

Commission's assessment

- (7) The Commission has assessed the amended RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.
- (8) The Commission considers that the amendments put forward by Estonia do not affect the positive assessment of the RRP set out in the Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 regarding the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3), points (a), (b), (c), (d),(da), (db), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k), of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

Positive assessment

- (9) 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 should be set out.

Financial contribution

- (10) The estimated total cost of Estonia's amended RRP is EUR 953 380 000. As the amount of the estimated total cost of the amended RRP is higher than the updated maximum financial contribution available for Estonia, the financial contribution determined in accordance with Article 4a of Regulation (EU) 2021/1755 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶, and with Article 20(4) and Article 21a(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 that is allocated for Estonia's amended RRP should be equal to EUR 953 184 800. Therefore, the financial contribution made available to Estonia remains unchanged.

⁶ Regulation (EU) 2021/1755 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 October 2021 establishing the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (OJ L 357, 8.10.2021, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1755/oj>).

- (11) The Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 should therefore be amended accordingly. For the sake of clarity, the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 should be replaced entirely.
- (12) This Decision is without prejudice to the outcome of any procedures relating to the award of Union funds under any Union programme other than the Recovery and Resilience Facility or to procedures relating to distortions of the operation of the internal market that may be undertaken, in particular under Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. It does not override the requirement for Member States to notify instances of potential State aid to the Commission under Article 108 of the Treaty,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Approval of the assessment of the amended recovery and resilience plan

The assessment of the amended recovery and resilience plan for Estonia on the basis of the criteria provided for in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 is approved.

Article 2

Amendments

The Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 29 October 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Estonia is replaced by the text appearing in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 3

Addressee

This Decision is addressed to the Republic of Estonia.

Done at ..., ...

For the Council

The President
