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COVER NOTE

From: Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director

To: Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

No. Cion doc.: C(2025) 1810 final

Subject: COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... of 28.3.2025 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2024/1449 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans by setting out the elements of the scoreboard for the Reform and Growth Facility

Delegations will find attached document C(2025) 1810 final.

Encl.: C(2025) 1810 final



Brussels, 28.3.2025
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COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

of 28.3.2025

supplementing Regulation (EU) 2024/1449 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans by setting out the elements of the scoreboard for the Reform and Growth Facility

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE DELEGATED ACT

1.1 General background and objective

The Western Balkan partners have made significant progress in their political and economic development in recent decades. However, challenges remain in their path towards joining the European Union, in particular in addressing economic vulnerabilities and implementing reforms to support long-term growth. The region struggles with persistent socio-economic disparities, weak administrative capacity, and structural bottlenecks, all of which hinder the achievement of sustainable growth and convergence with the EU's standards.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1449, the Reform and Growth Facility ('the Facility') was set up as a dedicated instrument with an overall maximum amount of EU support of EUR 6 000 000 000 in current prices. The Facility aims to: (i) promote sustainable economic growth; (ii) support public investments and structural reforms; and (iii) increase the administrative and institutional capacities of the Western Balkans. Its overarching objective is to support the Western Balkans beneficiaries on their path towards full EU membership by strengthening their resilience, accelerating socio-economic convergence, and reinforcing their reform commitments.

To ensure transparency and accountability in its implementation, the Facility is embedded within a performance-monitoring framework. The Facility Regulation stipulates that the information gathered through the monitoring of performance must be publicly available through the creation of a scoreboard ('the Scoreboard'). The objective of the Scoreboard is to transparently present concise, up-to-date information on progress in the implementation of the Facility. It must be made publicly available online and updated twice a year following its operationalisation.

This Delegated Regulation sets out the elements of the Scoreboard, which should show the progress made in the implementation of the Facility. These elements will be compiled by the Commission from the performance data collected through the implementation of the Facility, ensuring that the region's reform and growth trajectory remains transparent and result-oriented.

1.2 Legal background

Article 26(2) of the Facility Regulation empowers the Commission to decide upon, by means of a delegated act, the detailed elements of the Scoreboard in order to show the progress made in implementation of the Facility. Article 26(3) of the Regulation further specifies that the Scoreboard is to be updated by the Commission twice a year and is to be made publicly available online.

2. CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION OF THE ACT

In line with Common Understanding of 2016 between the European Parliament,¹ the Council, and the Commission, the Commission consulted Member State experts on this Delegated Regulation during a meeting held on 5 December 2024, with representatives from 17 Member States in attendance. Member States raised questions on various aspects of the functioning

¹ OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1–14, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2016/512/oj

and content of the Reform and Growth Facility Scoreboard, including its transparency, the treatment of reforms, and the timeline for disbursement. The Commission provided clarifications on these points and confirmed the planned twice-yearly updates to the Scoreboard, in line with beneficiary-reporting deadlines. Moreover, the Commission confirmed that discussions on the Scoreboard can take place at the same time as the presentations on the state of play of the implementation of the Facility twice per year as laid down by the Regulation.

3. LEGAL ELEMENTS OF THE DELEGATED ACT

The right to adopt delegated acts is provided for under Article 26(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1449.

Article 1 lays down the content of the Scoreboard for the Facility and its duration.

Article 2 lays down the entry into force of the Regulation.

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2024/1449 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 establishing the Reform and Growth Facility² and in particular Article 26(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The aim of the Reform and Growth Facility established by Regulation (EU) 2024/1449 of the European Parliament and of the Council ('the Facility') is to:
 - (i) promote sustainable economic growth;
 - (ii) support public investments and structural reforms;
 - (iii) enhance the administrative and institutional capacities of the Western Balkans;
 - and (iv) support the Western Balkans beneficiaries on their path towards full EU membership by strengthening their resilience, accelerating socio-economic convergence, and reinforcing their reform commitments.

² OJ L, 2024/1449, 24.5.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1449/oj>

- (2) Pursuant to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1449, the Commission is to monitor the implementation of the Facility and assess the achievement of the objectives of the Facility. The monitoring of the implementation must be targeted and proportionate to the activities carried out under the Facility.
- (3) Pursuant to Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1449, the Commission is to establish a Facility scoreboard, which shall display the progress of the implementation of the Reform Agendas of the beneficiaries. The Scoreboard is to be made publicly available online and updated by the Commission twice a year.
- (4) Pursuant to Article 4(9) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1449, the Commission is to make information on the volume and allocation of support publicly available through the Scoreboard.
- (5) The elements of the Scoreboard are to be developed by the Commission based on:
(i) the information included in the Reform Agendas assessed and approved in accordance with Articles 14 and 15 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1449; (ii) the assessment of the satisfactory fulfilment of payment conditions; and (iii) the subsequent disbursements authorised in accordance with Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1449.
- (6) In order to allow for the prompt application of the measures provided for in this Regulation, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1
Content of the Facility scoreboard

1. The Reform and Growth Facility scoreboard shall display the progress in the implementation of the Reform Agendas to be measured in particular by:
 - (a) the fulfilment of steps, reflecting the implementation of the reforms set out in Commission Implementing Decision C(2024)7375 on the approval of the Reform Agendas³, by listing and counting the steps that have been satisfactorily fulfilled and displaying this as a percentage of the total number of steps set out in Commission Implementing Decision C(2024)7375;
 - (b) the progress in the disbursement of the non-repayable financial support and loans, based on satisfactory fulfilment of payment conditions.
2. The scoreboard shall also display:
 - (a) the Reform Agendas and the respective Commission assessments of these Reform Agendas thereof;

³ Commission implementing decision C(2024)7375 of 23 October 2024 approved the Reform Agendas for Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. The scoreboard established by this Delegated Act shall also be used to display progress in the implementation of the Reform Agenda for Bosnia and Herzegovina once it has been approved.

- (b) the list of the Western Balkans Investment Framework investments that have been approved;
 - (c) links to the beneficiaries' webpages where up-to-date data are published on final recipients receiving amounts of funding exceeding the equivalent of EUR 50 000 cumulatively over the period of four years for the implementation of reforms and investments under this Facility.
3. The Scoreboard is to be made publicly available online and is to be updated by the Commission twice a year. The Scoreboard is to be available at least until the end of the Facility's implementation period, covering its entire duration, including the grace period.

Article 2
Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 28.3.2025

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN
