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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party of Financial Counsellors
Subject:	PSLF - Presentation by the Presidency on the debriefing of the 3rd political trilogue

Delegations will find attached the presentation by the Presidency on the debriefing of the 3rd political trilogue on the Public Sector Loan Facility Regulation, given at the Financial Counsellors Working Party on 29 April 2021.

PUBLIC

Public Sector Loan Facility

- Debriefing of 3rd Political Trilogue -

FiCo meeting - 29 April 2021



2021
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Summary



1. Introduction

2. The remaining issues

- a. Budgetary aspects
- b. Delegated acts *vs.* implementing acts
- c. Gender impact assessment
- d. Monitoring of financial viability

3. Outcome and next steps



Introduction



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Scene Setter



- Third political trilogue: 26 April 2021
- EP premises, *but chaired by the Council*
- Heads of delegations:
 - EP: Rapporteurs: Johan Van Overtveldt and Henrike Hahn
 - Council: Chair of FiCo WP, Rui Henrique Alves
 - EC: Commissioner Elisa Ferreira
- Agenda:
 - Agreement on technical work
 - Exchange of views on remaining issues



Exchange of views



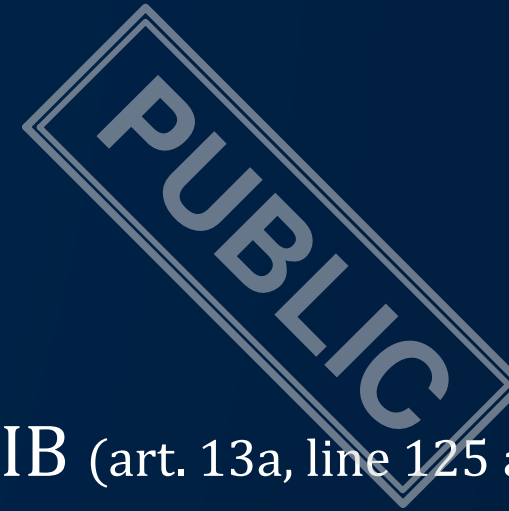
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Budgetary aspects

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Resources (art. 4, lines 67-70, 72)	- Financing is the one contained in the original COM proposal and Council position. - Bilateral EP and COM declaration.
Climate conditionality for the funding (art. 4a, lines 76-77)	- EP dropped its intentions. - Lines deleted.
Technical assistance (art. 4, line 74; art. 6, line 86; art. 10, line 111)	- Envelope increased from 25 to 35 million euro. - At least 10 million to support administrative capacity of the beneficiaries.
Less developed regions (art. 4, line 74; art. 6, line 86; art. 10, line 111)	- Co-financing rate increased from 20% to 25%.
Availability of resources (art. 6, lines 85-86; rec. 13, line 34)	- Competitive phase to start in January 2026.

Delegated acts *vs.* implementing acts



- EP would like to have delegated acts for:
 - The selection of finance partners other than the EIB (art. 13a, line 125 and rec. 20, line 45)
 - Work programmes (Art. 13: lines 123, 123c)
- Council (and COM) clearly against.
- Agreement:
 - Implementing acts for both issues.
 - Work programmes set award criteria in the event that resources would be insufficient to support eligible projects and establishes a hierarchy of those criteria.

Gender impact assessment / Monitoring financial viability / Other issues

- The interim evaluation will assess: (i) how the horizontal principles in article 3a have been taken into account; *(ii) the need to carry out gender impact assessment*; (iii) the application of the eligibility criteria (art. 8); and (iv) how the publicity obligations have been applied.
 - EP proposal was to include “*whether it is appropriate to amend the eligibility criteria to include provisions on gender impact assessment*” (line 143).
- In annex II, data will be broken by region and gender only “*where relevant*” (line 215).
- In order to prevent excessive burden, this was accepted against EP dropping its intentions on monitoring financial viability (rec. 15a, line 39)
- The outcome of all technical work (9 technical trilogues) was agreed.



Outcome and Follow-up



Outcome

- Provisional agreement reached – a balanced “package”.
- Within the boundaries of the Council mandate – no red lines were crossed:
 - No joint declaration on financial resources;
 - Climate conditionality not included;
 - No delegated acts.
- Compromise was needed for some issues:
 - Envelope for technical assistance: slight increase (25 to 35 millions);
 - Co-financing rate for the case of less developed regions: idem (20% to 25%);
 - Gender impact assessment: reference in article, but with softer language.

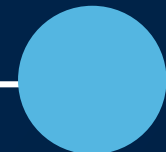
Next Steps

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29 April

FiCo



5 May (tbc)

COREPER



10 May (tbc)

EP Committee



Later

EP Plenary
Final approval and
Publication in OJ



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

PORTUGUESE PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

