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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 28.3.2025

on the financing of the Digital Europe Programme and the adoption of the multiannual work programme 2025-2027

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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) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹ ('the Financial Regulation'), and in particular Article 110(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 2021/694² of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the Digital Europe Programme and repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240, and in particular Article 24 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure the implementation of the Digital Europe programme, it is necessary to adopt a multiannual financing decision, which is to constitute the multiannual work programme, for the years 2025-2027 in accordance with Article 110(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.
- (2) The envisaged assistance is to comply with the conditions and procedures set out by the restrictive measures³ adopted pursuant to Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('TFEU').
- (3) It is necessary to allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 116(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.
- (4) 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 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.
- (5) Pursuant to Article 62(1), first subparagraph, point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, indirect management is to be used for the actions specified in the work programme.
- (6) 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 157(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. To this end, such entities and persons are to be subject to an assessment of their systems and procedures in accordance with Article 157(4) of

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Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast) (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.09.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj).

² OJ L [166], 11.5.2021, p. 1.

See www.sanctionsmap.eu.

- Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509⁴ and, if necessary, to appropriate supervisory measures in accordance with Article 154(5) of the Financial Regulation before a contribution agreement can be signed.
- (7) It is necessary to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals and to provide for the conditions for awarding those grants in accordance with Article 198 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.
- (8) It is necessary to protect the security of the Union or its Member States as provided for in Article 136 of the Financial Regulation.
- (9) Regulation (EU) 2023/1781⁵ of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/694 (Chips Act) provides for funding of Chips Fund under this Commission Implementing Decision.
- (10) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Digital Europe Programme Coordination Committee established by Article 31 of Regulation (EU) 2021/694.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The work programme

The multiannual financing decision, constituting the multiannual work programme for the implementation of the Digital Europe Programme for the years 2025- 2027, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

Article 2

Union contribution

The maximum Union contribution for the implementation of the work programme for the years 2025-2027 is set at EUR 1 232 726 898, and shall be financed from the appropriations entered in the following lines of the general budget of the Union:

- (a) Budget line 02 04 02 10 [High-Performance Computing]: EUR 43 652 729
- (b) Budget line 02 04 03 [Artificial Intelligence]: EUR 544 726 000
- (c) Budget line 02 04 01 10 [Cybersecurity]: EUR 44 451 000
- (d) Budget line 02 04 04 [Skills]: EUR 167 162 423
- (e) Budget line 02 04 05 01 [Deployment]: EUR 290 827 840
- (f) Budget line 02 04 05 02 [Deployment / Interoperability]: EUR 81 906 906
- (g) Budget line 02 04 06 10 [Chips Fund]: EUR 60 000 000

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Except for the cases of Article 157(7) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, where the Commission may decide, not to require an ex-ante assessment.

⁵ OJ L 229, 18.9.2023, p. 1–53

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 as provided for in the general budget of the Union for 2026 and 2027 following the adoption of that budget by the budget authority.

Article 3

Flexibility clause

Cumulated changes to the allocations to specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum Union contribution set in Article 2, first paragraph, of this Decision shall not be considered to be substantial for the purposes of Article 110(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, where those changes do not significantly affect the nature of the actions and the objective of the work programmes. The increase of the maximum Union contribution set in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

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.

Article 4

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 referred to in point 2.4 of the Annex.

Article 5

Grants awarded without a call for proposals

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals in accordance with the conditions set out in the Annex to the bodies referred to in the Annex and selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in the Annex.

Article 6

Financial instruments

The provision of financial support by means of Chips Fund for the amount set in the Annex, may be entrusted to the entities selected in accordance with the criteria laid down in point 7.1 of the Annex.

Article 7

Security and public order

In accordance with Article 136(2) of the Financial Regulation, the actions set out in the Annex have been identified as affecting the security of the Union or its Member States.

In accordance with Article 136(3) of the Financial Regulation, the authorising officer responsible may set specific conditions for the award procedures and for the resulting legal commitments. The specific conditions shall be strictly limited to what is necessary to protect security or public order of the Union and/or its Member States.

Done at Brussels, 28.3.2025

For the Commission Henna VIRKKUNEN Executive Vice-President