

COMMISSION DECISION

2007

National programme for Albania under the IPA-Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2007

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes, which can be established by country and by component, or, as appropriate, by group of countries or by theme. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council established on 30 January 2006² a European Partnership with Albania. The Commission has adopted on 31 May 2007 the multi-annual indicative planning document 2007/2009 for Albania, which presents indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to the country concerned³.
- (4) Therefore, and having regard to the project proposals submitted by Albania, the National Programme for Albania under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2007 aims at providing assistance to strengthen the rule of law and good governance in the police and judiciary administrations, to prepare in the medium-term the decentralisation of EC assistance management, to enhance the national economic competitiveness, and to align the national statistical, environmental and taxation sectors with European Union standards.

¹ OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

² OJ L 35, 7.2.2006, p. 1–18.

³ C(2007)2245.

- (5) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002⁴ (hereafter: “Implementing Rules”) and constitutes thus a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁵ (hereafter: “Financial Regulation”).
- (6) It is appropriate to implement the project aiming at introducing a new management culture in Albanian SMEs by joint management with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), in accordance with article 53d of the Financial Regulation, as the EBRD has already given similar assistance in the past.
- (7) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The National programme for Albania under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2007, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented partly by centralised management and partly by joint management with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

It shall be implemented by means of a Financing Agreement to be concluded between the Commission and the Government of Albania.

Article 2

The maximum amount of Community contribution shall be **EUR 49,268,790**, to be financed through Article 22.02.02 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2007.

Done at Brussels, [...]

For the Commission

[...]

Member of the Commission

⁴ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1 Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 478/2007 (OJ L111, 28.4.2007, p. 13).

⁵ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006 (OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p.1).