



EUROPEAN
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ANNEX 1

ANNEX

Commission Implementing Decision

amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 1003 of 20 February 2014 on the financing of the support measures of the Programme for the Competitiveness of the Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) for 2014

Annex 1

In accordance with Article 14 of the Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013, establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, the Commission shall regularly undertake the following:

- (a) improvement of the analysis and monitoring of sectoral and cross-sectoral competitiveness issues;
- (b) the identification and dissemination of good practices and policy approaches, and their further development;
- (c) fitness checks of existing law and impact assessments of new Union measures that are of particular relevance to the competitiveness of enterprises, with a view to identifying areas of existing law that need to be simplified and ensuring that burdens on SMEs are minimised in areas in which new legislative measures are proposed;
- (d) the evaluation of legislation affecting enterprises, particularly SMEs, industrial policy and competitiveness-related measures;
- (e) the promotion of integrated and user-friendly online systems that provide information on programmes relevant for SMEs, whilst ensuring that they do not duplicate existing portals.

This financing decision establishes two support measures for the year 2014: studies and impact assessments, conferences, meetings and dissemination.

1. STUDIES AND IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

MEASURE NO

COS-SM2014-1-00

OBJECTIVE OF THE IMPLEMENTING MEASURE

The objective of this measure is to carry out analysis of the structural and micro-economic factors affecting the competitiveness of individual sectors as well as competitiveness and cross-sectoral issues in general, with the aim to enhance knowledge of the drivers of the competitiveness of European industry and the factors hindering it. It also aims to assess Union measures of particular relevance for the competitiveness of enterprises with an aim to identify areas of existing legislation requiring simplification or the need for the new legislative proposals.

DESCRIPTION

Sectoral studies and reports will cover major European industries and their sub-sectors. In line with the Commission Communication of 5 October 2005, implementing the Community Lisbon Programme: A policy framework to strengthen EU manufacturing – towards a more integrated approach for industrial policy¹, the studies should lead to an enhanced understanding of the drivers of innovative and competitive European industrial sectors. Overall, the various studies should enable the Union to identify the main trends in European industrial sectors. Such an evidence based approach provides a sound basis for the development of an effective industrial policy.

Furthermore, studies on competitiveness and cross-sectoral issues in general, including for the Commission's annual report on the competitiveness of European industry, will be conducted. Studies for the Competitiveness Report will combine analytical work of high academic standard with a policy outlook for the medium term. They will provide the analytical basis for the debate on economic reforms and the Europe 2020 agenda [established by Commission Communication of 3 March 2010, Europe 2020 – A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth²]. Other studies will analyse cross-sectoral issues and policy areas affecting the competitiveness of European industry.

Impact assessments will focus on the analysis of possible reviews of existing legislation and impacts they might have on the enterprise competitiveness and in particular on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Recommendations for possible new legislative proposals will be assessed as well, taking into account their economic and societal added value.

Ex-post evaluations will assess Union policy actions, in particular their overall economic impact, efficiency and effectiveness as well as their impact on reducing obstacles in the market.

IMPLEMENTATION MODE

Various procurement modes will be used depending on the nature of each action:

- a) call for tender;
- b) existing framework contracts.

OPERATION TIMETABLE

MILESTONE DESCRIPTION	INDICATIVE QUARTER
Publication of calls	Q1-Q4/2014
Implementation	Q1/2014 - Q4/2015
Total duration of the actions (months): 24	

Year	02.0201
2014	4,312,000

¹ COM(2005) 474 final.

² COM(2010) 2020 final.

2. CONFERENCES, MEETINGS AND DISSEMINATION

MEASURE NO

COS-SM2014-2-00

OBJECTIVE OF THE IMPLEMENTING MEASURE

The objective of this measure is to enhance dialogue with various stakeholders in order to discuss how to address challenges of the Union economy, to build and disseminate sectoral knowledge, to increase coherence and cooperation between Member States, to ensure an effective and efficient implementation of the COSME and to put forward possible policy recommendations and to provide information services in support of the overall objectives of COSME.

DESCRIPTION

Conferences, workshops and expert meetings will be organised with participation of various stakeholders (national authorities, industry and consumer organisations, SMEs representatives, non-governmental organisations, etc.) to discuss challenges facing different industrial sectors. Particular attention will be devoted to recommendations on how to better address SMEs needs and how to further foster Union competitiveness. Information actions relating to the objectives of the COSME will be carried out.

IMPLEMENTATION MODE

Various implementation modes will be used depending on the nature of each action:

- a) call for tender;
- b) existing framework contracts;
- c) direct reimbursement of experts;
- d) specific contracts (10 contracts)
- e) Ad-hoc grant to the Italian government in the context of the Italian Presidency of the Council for the organisation of a conference to promote social economy – Indicative amount: EUR 100, 000
Maximum rate of co-financing is 90%.

OPERATION TIMETABLE

MILESTONE DESCRIPTION	INDICATIVE QUARTER
Signature of the grant	Q 3 2014
Publication of calls	Q1-Q4/2014
Implementation	Q1/2014 – Q2/2015
Total duration of the actions (months): 18	

Year	02.0201
2014	2,839,722