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ANNEX – PART 1/2

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION DECISION

**on the financing of the Pericles 2020 Programme and the adoption of the work
programme for 2020**

ANNEX

Work programme for 2020 for the Pericles 2020 Programme

1. INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives given in Regulation (EU) No 331/2014 this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2020 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2),
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 3).

a) Legal basis

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Regulation (EU) No 331/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014.2. Council Regulation (EU) 2015/768 of 11 May 2015. |
|--|

b) Budget line

Budget line 01 02 04

c) Objectives pursued

General objective¹:

To prevent and combat counterfeiting and related fraud, thus enhancing the competitiveness of the Union's economy and securing the sustainability of public finances.

Specific objective²:

To protect euro banknotes and coins against counterfeiting and related fraud, by supporting and supplementing the measures undertaken by the Member States and assisting the competent national and Union authorities in their efforts to develop among themselves and with the Commission a close and regular cooperation and an exchange of best practice, where appropriate including third countries and international organisations.

That objective shall be measured, inter alia, through the effectiveness of action by financial, technical, law-enforcement and judicial authorities, as measured through the number of counterfeits detected, illegal workshops dismantled, individuals arrested and penalties imposed.

Priorities of the Pericles 2020 strategy for 2020:

¹ Art. 3 of the basic act.

² Art. 4 of the basic act.

The priorities on which the Pericles Programme is based in 2020 are listed in the update of the Pericles Strategy 2020³.

They have been endorsed by the Euro Counterfeiting Experts Group (ECEG), as provided for by Council Regulation (EC) 1338/2001 of 28 June 2001.

They are as follows:

- Supporting activities aimed at improving cooperation among those Member States which are particularly affected by the production and distribution of counterfeits;
- fostering cooperation with authorities of those third countries where there is suspicion of or evidence for counterfeit euro production;
- maintaining an efficient framework for the protection of the euro in South Eastern Europe;
- topical developments: Security features of euro coins, the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1210/2010 concerning authentication of euro coins and handling of euro coins unfit for circulation, distribution of counterfeits and high quality components on the internet, support for the establishment/reinforcement of NCO's.

d) Expected results:

- higher capacity of the national experts to address issues related to counterfeiting of the euro;
- strengthening of the cooperation and exchange of information between competent national authorities in relation to the protection of the euro against counterfeiting, both inside and outside the EU;
- improve knowledge on the legislation and administrative practices concerning the protection of the euro;
- harmonisation of the administrative practices in relation to the relevant legislation in different Member States;
- improving cooperation within the European Union and improving its relations with third countries;
- strengthening the technical capacity of third country agencies to investigate euro counterfeiting.

³ Update of the Pericles 2020 strategy: priority action points (attached as Annex 1 –Part 2/2).

2. GRANTS

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is:
EUR 700 000.

Pericles 2020 Programme - Call for proposals

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Bodies eligible for funding under the Programme shall be the competent national authorities as defined in point (b) of Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1338/2001.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The activities of the programme shall be implemented in conformity with Article 7 of Regulation No 311/2014 defining target groups and joint actions, and shall include the following eligible actions:

- (a) exchange and dissemination of information, in particular through organising workshops, meetings and seminars, including training, targeted placements and exchanges of staff of competent national authorities and other similar actions (see Art.8(2)(a) of the basic act);
- (b) technical, scientific and operational assistance, as appears necessary as part of the Programme including in particular the actions mentioned in Art.8(2)(b) of the basic act;
- (c) grants to finance the purchase of equipment to be used by specialised anti counterfeiting authorities of third countries for protecting the euro against counterfeiting, in compliance with Art.10(3) and Art.8(2)(c) of the basic act.

Implementation

The action will be implemented by DG ECFIN.

Selection Criteria

Applicants shall demonstrate the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully implement the proposed action.

Where appropriate, the applicant shall demonstrate that it has the financial capacity enabling it to perform the tasks involved in the project as shown by the annual accounts (balance and profit and loss account) for the last financial year for which accounts have been closed.

The financial capacity requirement does not apply to national and regional administrations.

Award Criteria

Applications submitted by the applicants that fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria will be assessed on the basis of the award criteria mentioned below:

- Compliance with the Programme's objectives as defined above;
- Complementarity with previous, current or future projects carried out or planned as part of national or EU action in the field of combating currency counterfeiting;
- European dimension, including in particular aspects that relate to cooperation with the ECB and Europol;
- The intrinsic quality of the project in terms of its conception, organisation, presentation and objectives;
- Cost-effectiveness ratio;
- The impact of the anticipated results on the attainment of the Programme's objectives.

Maximum rate of co-financing

75% (contribution of the EU in relation to the total eligible costs incurred for the action).

In exceptional and duly justified cases, the co-financing rate shall not exceed 90% of the eligible costs.

Such duly justified cases defined for this work programme include, in particular:

- Conferences, seminars and workshops taking place in third countries identified in priority action point b. of the Pericles 2020 Strategy and Turkey, as referred to in priority action c. of the Pericles 2020 Strategy.
- Actions addressing the priority actions point III of the Pericles 2020 Strategy.
- Actions introduced by competent national authorities that did not apply for Pericles funding in the calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019 in order to encourage greater participation of the competent national authorities as underlined in the Mid-Term Evaluation of the 'Pericles 2020' programme (SWD(2017)443).
- Actions - relating to conferences, seminars and workshops - inviting at least 70 participants from at least 10 countries in order to encourage greater participation of the competent national authorities as underlined in the Mid-Term Evaluation of the 'Pericles 2020' programme (SWD(2017)443).

3. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2020 is EUR 400 000.

Pericles 2020 Programme - Procured actions

General description of the contracts envisaged

The procured actions will focus on the implementation of the Pericles Strategy 2019:

- Events, conferences, staff exchanges and training actions. In implementing these type of actions, the Commission may choose to use the services of a firm specialised in organising events under a framework contract;
- Studies.

Implementation

The actions will be implemented directly by DG ECFIN.