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Proposal for a

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION

amending Implementing Decision (EU) (ST 10161/21 INIT; ST 10161/21 ADD 1) of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Belgium

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility[1], and in particular Article 20(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) Following the submission of the national recovery and resilience plan ('RRP') by Belgium on 30 April 2021, the Commission proposed its positive assessment to the Council. On 13 July 2021, the Council approved the positive assessment by means of an implementing decision ('the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021')[2]. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 was amended by Council Implementing Decisions of 8 December 2023[3], 10 December 2024[4], 18 February 2025[5], 11 March 2025[6], 20 June 2025[7], and 8 July 2025[8].

(2) On 20 June 2025, Belgium made a reasoned request to the Commission to make a proposal to amend the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 in accordance with Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 on the grounds that the RRP is partially no longer achievable because of objective circumstances. On that basis, Belgium has submitted an amended RRP.

Amendments based on Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241

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1 OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17, ELI: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/241/oj

2 See documents ST 10161/21 INIT; ST 10161/21 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

3 See documents ST 15570/23 INIT; ST 15570/23 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

4 See documents ST 15974/24 INIT; ST 15974/24 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

5 See documents ST 5654/25 INIT; ST 5654/25 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

6 See documents ST 6545/25 INIT; ST 6545/25 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

7 See documents ST 9584/25 INIT; ST 9584/25 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

8 See documents ST 10529/25 INIT; ST 10529/25 ADD 1 at http://register.consilium.europa.eu

(3) The amendments to the RRP submitted by Belgium because of objective circumstances concern 39 measures.

(4) Belgium has explained that two measures are partially no longer achievable because of high inflation. This concerns description of Investment I-3.04 Cycling & walking infrastructure – Schuman and target 98 of Investment I-3.04 Cycling & walking infrastructure – Schuman; and description of Investment I-3.11 Canal Albert and Trilogiport and milestone 106 and target 107 of Investment I-3.11 Canal Albert and Trilogiport. On this basis, Belgium has requested that those measures be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(5) Belgium has explained that 18 measures are partially no longer achievable because of unforeseen technical difficulties. This concerns description of Investment I-2.01 Cybersecure and resilient digital society and milestone 48 of Investment I-2.01 Cybersecure and resilient digital society; description of Investment I-2.02 Cybersecurity: 5G and milestone 49 of Investment I-2.02 Cybersecurity: 5G; description of Investment I-2.05 Digitalisation SPF and milestones 55, 58, 59, 60 and 61 of Investment I-2.05 Digitalisation SPF; description of Investment I-2.06 eHealth Services et Health Data and description of milestone 64 of Investment I-2.06 eHealth Services et Health Data; description of Investment I-3.03b Cycling Infrastructure and target 96b of Investment I-3.03b Cycling Infrastructure; description of Investment I-3.12 Rail - Smart mobility of the Federal State and target 109 of Investment I-3.12 Rail - Smart mobility of the Federal State; description of Investment I-3.18: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State and target 123 of Investment I-3.18: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State; description of Investment I-5.08 Nuclear medicine and milestones 179 and 180 of Investment I-5.08 Nuclear medicine; description of Investment I-5.08bis 'Nuclear medicine – the theranostic approach' of the Federal State and milestone 247 of Investment I-5.08bis 'Nuclear medicine – the theranostic approach' of the Federal State; description of Investment I-5.11 Strengthen R&D and milestone 187 of Investment I-5.11 Strengthen R&D; description of Investment I-5.12 Relocation of food and development of logistics platforms and milestone 188, and targets 190 and 191 of Investment I-5.12 Relocation of food and development of logistics platforms; description of Investment I-7.04 Renovation of social housing of the Walloon Region and target 215 of Investment I-7.04 Renovation of social housing of the Walloon Region; description of Investment I-7.12: 'Energy import infrastructure' of the Federal State and milestones 221, 222 and 223 of Investment I-7.12: 'Energy import infrastructure' of the Federal State; description of Investment I-7.13: 'Call for the decarbonisation of industry' of the Walloon Region and milestone 224; description of Investment I-7.15 'Backbone for H2' of the Federal State and milestone 226 and target 227 of Investment I-7.15 'Backbone for H2' of the Federal State; description of Investment I-7.16: 'Floating solar' of the Federal State and milestone 232 of Investment I-7.16: 'Floating solar' of the Federal State; description of Investment I-7.19: 'Removing barriers to renewable energy' of the Federal State and milestones 237 and 238 of Investment I-7.19: 'Removing barriers to renewable energy' of the Federal State; and description of Investment I-7.22: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State and target 243 of Investment I-7.22: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State. On this basis, Belgium has requested that those measures be amended. Furthermore, Belgium has requested to delete milestone 48 of Investment I-2.01: Cybersecure and resilient digital society; Investment I-3.18: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State and target 123 of Investment I-3.18: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State; Investment I-5.08bis 'Nuclear medicine – the theranostic approach' of the Federal State and

milestone 247 of Investment I-5.08bis ‘Nuclear medicine – the theranostic approach’ of the Federal State; Investment I-7.12: ‘Energy import infrastructure’ of the Federal State and milestones 221, 222 and 223 of Investment I-7.12: ‘Energy import infrastructure’ of the Federal State; Investment I-7.13: ‘Call for the decarbonisation of industry’ of the Walloon Region and milestone 224; Investment I-7.15 ‘Backbone for H2’ of the Federal State and milestone 226 and targets 227 of Investment I-7.15 ‘Backbone for H2’ of the Federal State; Investment I-7.16: ‘Floating solar’ of the Federal State and milestone 232 of Investment I-7.16: ‘Floating solar’ of the Federal State; Investment I-7.19: ‘Removing barriers to renewable energy’ of the Federal State and milestones 237 and 238 of Investment I-7.19: ‘Removing barriers to renewable energy’ of the Federal State; Investment I-7.22: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State and target 243 of Investment I-7.22: 'Charging stations - FED' of the Federal State. Belgium has also requested to extend the implementation timeline of milestone 49 of Investment I-2.02 Cybersecurity: 5G; milestone 61 of Investment I-2.05 Digitalisation SPF; milestone 64 of Investment I-2.06 eHealth Services et Health Data, milestone 109 of Investment I-3.12 Rail - Smart mobility of the Federal State, and milestone 180 of Investment I-5.08 Nuclear medicine. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(6) Belgium has explained that one measure is partially no longer archievable because of the lack of demand. This concerns description of Investment I-5.13 Digitisation of the Walloon tourism sector and target 192 of Investment I-5.13 Digitisation of the Walloon tourism sector. On this basis, Belgium has requested that this measure be amended. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(7) Belgium has explained that 18 measures have been amended to implement better alternatives in order to achieve their original ambition. This concerns description of Investment I-1A Renovation of private and social housing and targets 6 and 7 of Investment I-1A Renovation of private and social housing; description of Investment I-1.15 An industrial value chain for hydrogen transition and milestones 19 and 20 of Investment I-1.15 An industrial value chain for hydrogen transition; description of Investment I-1.16 An industrial value chain for hydrogen transition and milestones 23 and 26 of Investment I-1.16 An industrial value chain for hydrogen transition; description of Investment I-1.24 Blue Deal and milestones 41 and 43 of Investment I-1.24 Blue Deal; description of Investment I-4.13 Building and renovation of early childcare infrastructure and target 155 of Investment I-4.13 Building and renovation of early childcare infrastructure; description of Investment I-3.01 Cycling infrastructure of the Flemish Region and milestone 94 and targets 95 and 96 of Investment I-3.01 Cycling infrastructure of the Flemish Region; description of Investment I-3.09 Rail-Accessible and multimodal train station and target 105 of Investment I-3.09 Rail-Accessible and multimodal train station; description of Investment I-3.10 Rail-efficient network and target 108 of Investment I-3.10 Rail-efficient network, description of Investment I-3.20 Greening the bus fleet and targets 115, 115b and 122 of Investment I-3.20 Greening the bus fleet, description of Investment I-3.21 Charging infrastructure for busses and target 246 of Investment I-3.21 Charging infrastructure for busses; description of Reform R-4.05 Re-qualification strategy and milestone 139 of Reform R-4.05 Re-qualification strategy; description of Investment I-5.07 ‘Digital lifelong learning’ and milestone 171 of Investment I-5.07 ‘Digital lifelong learning’; description of Investment I-7 Saving energy in public buildings of the Flemish region and target 218 of Investment I-7 Saving energy in public buildings of the Flemish region; description of Investment I-7.11 Research platform for energy transition and

milestones 219 and 220 of Investment I-7.11 Research platform for energy transition; description of Investment I-7.17 Optimization of energy distribution and milestones 233 and 234 of Investment I-7.17 Optimization of energy distribution; description of Investment I-7.18 Call for innovative renewable energy production initiatives and milestone 236 of Investment I-7.18 Call for innovative renewable energy production initiatives; Investment I-7.24 Rail efficient network and target 245 of description of Investment I-7.24 Rail efficient network; and Reform R-7.04 Acceleration of the energy transition and milestones 230 and 231 of Reform R-7.04 Acceleration of the energy transition. On this basis, Belgium has requested to amend the aforementioned measures. Furthermore, Belgium has requested to delete milestone 41 of Investment I-1.24 Blue Deal. Belgium has also requested to extend the implementation timeline of milestone 230 of Reform R-7.04 Acceleration of the energy transition. As those circumstances justify an amendment of the measures, the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(8) Belgium has explained that 52 measures have been amended to implement better alternatives that allow the administrative burden to be reduced and simplify the Council Implementing Decision, while still achieving the objectives of those measures. This concerns description of Investment I-1B: Public building renovations and targets 13, 14 and 14bis of Investment I-1B: Public building renovations; description of Reform R-1.06: Regulatory framework for the CO2 market in Wallonia and milestone 14bis of Reform R-1.06: Regulatory framework for the CO2 market in Wallonia; description of Investment: I-1.18 Developing the low-carbon industry and milestone 28 of Investment: I-1.18 Developing the low-carbon industry; description of Investment I-1.22: Biodiversity and adaptation to climate change and targets 37 and 39 of Investment I-1.22: Biodiversity and adaptation to climate change; description of Investment I-1.23: Ecological defragmentation and target 40 of Investment I-1.23: Ecological defragmentation; description of Investment I-2.03: Cybersecurity: NTSU/CTIF interception and safeguard and milestone 50 of Investment I-2.03: Cybersecurity: NTSU/CTIF interception and safeguard; description of Investment I-2.04: Digitalisation IPSS and milestones 52 and 53 of Investment I-2.04: Digitalisation IPSS; description of Investment I-2.05bis: Digitalisation SPF and milestone 55b of Investment I-2.05bis: Digitalisation SPF; description of Investment I-2.07: Digitalisation of ONE and milestone 65 of Investment I-2.07: Digitalisation of ONE; description of Investment I-2.08: Digitalisation of the cultural and media sector and targets 66 and 67 of Investment I-2.08: Digitalisation of the cultural and media sector; description of Investment I-2.09: Digitalization of the Flemish Government and milestone 69 of Investment I-2.09: Digitalization of the Flemish Government; description of Investment I-2.10: Regional data exchange platform and target 71 of Investment I-2.10: Regional data exchange platform; description of Investment I-2.11: Digitalisation of citizen-business processes and target 73 of Investment I-2.11: Digitalisation of citizen-business processes; description of Reform R-2.02: E-government: tendering procedure and milestone 79 of Reform R-2.02: E-government: tendering procedure; description of Investment I-2.13: Coverage of white areas by developing very high speed fibre optic networks and target 80 of Investment I-2.13: Coverage of white areas by developing very high speed fibre optic networks; description of Investment I-2.14: Development of an AI institute in order to use this technology to meet societal challenges and target 83 of Investment I-2.14: Development of an AI institute in order to use this technology to meet societal challenges; description of Investment I-2.15: Improving the connectivity of 35 business parks in Wallonia and target 84 of Investment I-2.15: Improving the

connectivity of 35 business parks in Wallonia; description of Investment I-3.02: Cycling infrastructure - Corridors Vélo of the Walloon Region, milestone 94 and target 96 of Investment I-3.02: Cycling infrastructure - Corridors Vélo of the Walloon Region; description of Investment I-3.03a: Cycling infrastructure – VeloPlus – RBC, milestone 94, targets 95 and 96 of Investment I-3.03a: Cycling infrastructure – VeloPlus – RBC; description of Investment I-3.08: Smart road signals of the Walloon Region and targets 100 and 101 of Investment I-3.08: Smart road signals of the Walloon Region; description of Investment I-3.07: Metro extension of the Walloon Region and targets 101 and 102 of Investment I-3.07: Metro extension of the Walloon Region; description of Investment I-3.16: Greening of the bus fleet of the Flemish Region; description of Investment I-3.17: Greening of the bus fleet of the Brussels-Capital Region ; description of Reform R-3.04: Charging Station; description of Reform R-3.07: Emission Fraud and milestone 125 of Reform R-3.07: Emission Fraud; description of Reform R-4.03: Legal acts to reduce early school leaving and absenteeism and address permanent exclusions and milestone 129 of Reform R-4.03: Legal acts to reduce early school leaving and absenteeism and address permanent exclusions; description of Investment I-4.04: Digital upgrade for higher education and adult learning and target 133 of Investment I-4.04: Digital upgrade for higher education and adult learning; description of Investment I-4.05: Digital turnaround for Brussels schools and target 138 of Investment I-4.05: Digital turnaround for Brussels schools; description of Investment I-4.07 Re-qualification strategy and targets 144 and 145 of Investment I-4.07 Re-qualification strategy; description of Investment I-4.09: Digital platform for prisoners and target 147 of Investment I-4.09: Digital platform for prisoners; description of Investment I-4.12: Development of public utility housing and housing for vulnerable persons and targets 151 and 153 of Investment I-4.12: Development of public utility housing and housing for vulnerable persons; description of Reform R-4.07: Pension and end of career and milestones 157 and 158 of Reform R-4.07: Pension and end of career; description of Investment I-5.02: EU Multidisciplinary and Biotech Training Hub and target 161 of Investment I-5.02: EU Multidisciplinary and Biotech Training Hub; description of Investment I-5.01: A6K/E6K Digital and Technological Innovation and Training Hub and target 162 of Investment I-5.01: A6K/E6K Digital and Technological Innovation and Training Hub; description of Investment I-5.03: Upgrading of advanced training infrastructure and targets 160 and 163 of Investment I-5.03: Upgrading of advanced training infrastructure; description of Investment I-5.04: Learning and career-offensive and target 165 of Investment I-5.04: Learning and career-offensive; description of Investment I-5.05: Strategy for relaunching the labour market focused on the efficiency and optimisation of activation and training policies and target 166 of Investment I-5.05: Strategy for relaunching the labour market focused on the efficiency and optimisation of activation and training policies; description of Investment I-5.06: Digital Skills and milestone 170 of Investment I-5.06: Digital Skills; description of Reform R-5.01: Limitation of unemployment benefits over time and enhanced degressive structure of unemployment benefits and milestone 175 of Reform R-5.01: Limitation of unemployment benefits over time and enhanced degressive structure of unemployment benefits; description of Investment I-5.14: Recycling Hub and milestone 198 of Investment I-5.14: Recycling Hub; description of Investment I-5.15: Belgium Builds Back Circular and milestones 199 and 200 of Investment I-5.15: Belgium Builds Back Circular; description of Investment I-5.16: Deployment of the circular economy in Wallonia and target 202 of Investment I-5.16: Deployment of the circular economy in Wallonia; description of Reform R-6: Spending Reviews and milestone 208 of Reform R-6: Spending Reviews; description

of Reform R-7.01: Revision of the code on air, climate and energy – RBC, milestone 211 and target 212 of Reform R-7.01: Revision of the code on air, climate and energy – RBC; description of Investment I-7.03 Energy grants - German-speaking Community and target 214 of Investment I-7.03 Energy grants - German-speaking Community; description of Investment I-7.05 Energy-climate measures in public buildings – Federal state and target 216 of Investment I-7.05 Energy-climate measures in public buildings – Federal state; description of Investment I-7.10 Energy measures in AWV buildings and target 217 of Investment I-7.10 Energy measures in AWV buildings; description of Investment I-7.14 Call for climate measures in agriculture and target 225 of Investment I-7.14 Call for climate measures in agriculture; description of Investment I-7.21 Greening the bus fleet –BCR and target 242 of Investment I-7.21 Greening the bus fleet –BCR; description of Investment I-7.23 Public LED lighting – VLA and target 244 of Investment I-7.23 Public LED lighting – VLA; description of Investment I-5.18 SMELD – FED and milestones 248 and 249 of Investment I-5.18 SMELD – FED; description of Investment I-7.20 Off-shore energy island and milestone 241 of Investment I-7.20 Off-shore energy island. On this basis, Belgium has requested that those measures be amended. Furthermore, Belgium has requested to delete milestone 19 of Investment I-1.15 An industrial value chain for hydrogen transition, target 36 of Investment I-1.22 'Biodiversity and adaptation to climate change' in the Walloon Region, milestone 79 of Reform R-2.02 E-government: tendering procedure; milestone 96a of Investment I-3.03b Cycling infrastructure – Federal State; target 114 of Investment I-3G Greening the bus fleet; target 145 of Investment I-4.07 Re-qualification strategy; milestone 199 of Investment I-5.15 Belgium Builds Back Circular; and milestone 248 of Investment I-5.18 SMELD-FED. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(9) Following the removal and decrease in the level of implementation of measures in accordance with Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, Belgium has requested to use most of the resources freed up by the removal of measures and the decrease in the level of their implementation to add eight new measures. This concerns Investment I-1.25 - Marine Nature Restauration Programme, Investment I-1.26 - Off-shore energy project of the Federal State, I-3.03b Velo Plus of the Federal State, Reform R-3.08 Reform of the Vehicle Circulation Tax of the Walloon Region, Investment I-5.19 Equity injection into Participatiemaatschappij Vlaanderen (PMV) to support companies active in the field of biotechnology, Investment I-7.26 Energy Renovation Bonus of the Walloon region, Investment I-5.20 Capital injection into SFPIM Defence, and Investment I-5.21 Scaled-up measures: Capital injection into SFPIM Defence. Furthermore, Belgium has requested to increase the level of implementation of six measures. This concerns Investment I-1.24 Blue Deal, Reform R-1.01 Improved energy subsidy scheme of the Flemish Region, Investment I-2.05 Digitalisation SPF, Investment I-3.09 Rail - accessible and multimodal stations, Investment I-3.10 Rail renovation – efficient network of the Federal State, Investment I-7.24 Rail – efficient network of the Federal State. On this basis, Belgium has requested that eight new measures be added and that the level of implementation of six measures be increased. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

Distribution of milestones and targets

(10) The distribution of milestones and targets in instalments should be amended to take into account the amendments to the RRP and the indicative timeline presented by Belgium.

Corrections of clerical errors

(11) One clerical error has been identified in the text of the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021, affecting one target and one measure under one component. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended to correct these clerical errors, which do not reflect the content of the RRP submitted to the Commission on 30 April 2021, as agreed between the Commission and Belgium. This clerical error relates to target 134 of Investment I-4.02 Higher Education Advancement Fund under component 4.1 Education 2.0. This correction does not affect the assessment or the implementation of the measure concerned.

Commission's assessment

(12) The Commission has assessed the amended RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

(13) The Commission considers that the amendments put forward by Belgium do not affect the positive assessment of the RRP set out in the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 regarding the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 points (a), (db), (g), (h), (j) and (k).

Contribution to growth potential, job creation and economic, social and institutional Addressing all or a significant subset of challenges identified in country-specific recommendations

(14) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (b), of and Annex V, criterion 2.2, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the amended RRP is expected to contribute to effectively addressing all or a significant subset of challenges (Rating A) identified in the relevant country-specific recommendations addressed to Belgium, including fiscal aspects thereof, or challenges identified in other relevant documents officially adopted by the Commission in the context of the European Semester.

(15) Having assessed progress in the implementation of all relevant country-specific recommendations as part of the 2025 European Semester, the Commission finds that a number of recommendations have been fully implemented, or substantial progress has been achieved in their implementation. Notably, the recommendation on providing liquidity to SMEs (CSR 2020.3.1) was considered fully implemented. Substantial progress has been achieved with respect to the recommendation to expand public investment for green and digital transitions and energy security (CSR 2022.1.2); to focus investment on research and innovation (CSR 2019.3.3, 2020.3.9); to reinforce the overall resilience of the health system (CSR 2020.1.2) and to mitigate the employment and social impact of the COVID-19 crisis (CSR 2020.2.1).

(16) The modified RRP includes an extensive set of mutually reinforcing reforms and investments that contribute to effectively addressing all or a significant subset of the economic and social challenges outlined in the country-specific recommendations addressed to Belgium by the Council in the context of the European Semester, notably in areas such as digitalisation of public administration, reform of the pension system, business environment, sustainable mobility, labour market, and education and skills. In addition, the modified RRP includes a new reform on the reduction of the level of taxation of electric vehicles that addresses CSR 2025.4.5 on the need to provide incentives and remove barriers to increase the use and supply of low-emission transport, R-3.08 - Reform of the Vehicle Circulation Tax of the Walloon Region.

(17) The modified REPowerEU chapter is expected to keep up the ambition of the plan with regard to the relevant country-specific recommendations in the field of energy and the green transition, notably CSR 2025.4.2 and CSR 2025.4.3 on the need to step up energy efficiency improvements and the reduction of fossil fuel use in buildings, CSR 2025.4.4 on the need to further stimulate the decarbonisation of industry, CSR 2025.4.5 on the need to promote the supply and use of public transport as well as soft mobility, and CSR 2025.4.6 on the need to accelerate the deployment of renewable energies and related grid infrastructure.

Contribution to growth potential, job creation and economic, social and institutional resilience

(18) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (c), of and Annex V, criterion 2.3, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the amended RRP is expected to have a high impact (rating A) on strengthening the growth potential, job creation, and economic, social and institutional resilience of Belgium, contributing to the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, including through the promotion of policies for children and youth, and on mitigating the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 crisis, thereby enhancing the economic, social and territorial cohesion and convergence within the Union.

(19) The amendments to the contribution to economic, social and institutional resilience relate to the allocation for the new measures I-5.19 Equity injection into Participatiemaatschappij Vlaanderen (PMV) to support companies active in the field of biotechnology, I-5.20 Capital injection into SFPIM Defence, and I-5.21 Scaled-up measures: Capital injection into SFPIM Defence, notably by including a measure to support the growth potential by structurally adjusting the level of public support available to address market failures in the biotech sector and, respectively measures to support institutional resilience through the strengthening of defence capacities.

Do no significant harm

(20) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (d), of and Annex V, criterion 2.4, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the amended RRP is expected to ensure that no measure (rating A) for the implementation of reforms and investments projects included in the RRP does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council[9] (the principle of 'do no significant harm').

(21) The amended RRP assesses compliance with the 'do no significant harm' principle following the methodology set out in the technical guidance provided in the Commission Notice 'Technical guidance on the application of "do no significant harm" under the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation'. The assessment is done systematically for each modified reform and investment following the two-step approach. The assessment concludes that for all modified measures, there is no risk of significant harm. Where needed, the requirements of the 'do no significant harm' assessment are enshrined in the design of a measure and specified in a milestone or target of this measure. Based on the information provided, it can be concluded that no

[9] Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 13, ELI: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/852/oj/eng).

measure does significant harm to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.

(22) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (da), of and Annex V, criterion 2.12, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the REPowerEU chapter is expected to effectively contribute to a large extent (rating A) to energy security, the diversification of the Union's energy supply, an increase in the uptake of renewables and in energy efficiency, an increase of energy storage capacities or the necessary reduction of dependence on fossil fuels before 2030.

(23) The REPowerEU chapter includes one new investment. This new investment incentivises energy efficiency renovations of buildings, under component 7.1: Renovation of Buildings. This concerns Investment I-7.26 "Renovation of private buildings in the Walloon Region" and aims to increase energy-efficient renovation of private buildings through the awarding of premiums.

Contribution to the green transition including biodiversity

(24) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (e), of and Annex V, criterion 2.5, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the amended RRP contains measures that contribute to a large extent (rating A) to the green transition, including biodiversity, or to addressing the challenges resulting therefrom. The measures supporting climate objectives account for an amount which represents 45.41% of the amended RRP's total allocation and 71.05% of the total estimated costs of measures in the REPowerEU chapter calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in Annex VI to Regulation (EU) 2021/241. In accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the amended RRP is consistent with the information included in the National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030.

(25) The measures in the amended RRP continue to significantly contribute to the green transition. The green contribution of the modified RRP has decreased from 51% to 45.41% compared to the amended assessment of 10 December 2024.

(26) This decrease was the result of the removal of several measures, including I-3.18 'Charging stations – FED' of the Federal State, I-7.13 'Call for decarbonisation of industry' of the Wallon Region, and I-7.15 Backbone for H2 of the Federal State. This decrease was partially offset by the increased level of implementation of several measures, including I-3.09 Rail – accessible and multimodal stations of the Federal State, I-3.10 Rail renovation – efficient network of the Federal State, and I-7.24 'Rail - efficient network' of the Federal State as well as the addition of two new investments, namely the Investment I-1.25 Marine Nature Restoration Programme and the Investment I-1.26 Off-Shore Energy project of the Federal State. The Marine Nature Restoration Programme is a combination of several projects and actions aimed at supporting marine nature restoration, including the development of dedicated databases. The Off-Shore Energy Project of the Federal State supports off-shore energy production.

Contribution to the digital transition

(27) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (f), of and Annex V, criterion 2.6, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the amended RRP contains measures that contribute to a large extent (rating A) to the digital transition or to addressing the challenges resulting from it. The measures supporting digital objectives account for an amount which represents 27.47% of the amended RRP's total allocation calculated in accordance with the methodology set out in Annex VII to that Regulation.

(28) The measures in the amended RRP continue to significantly contribute to the digital transition. The digital contribution of the modified RRP has increased from 26% to 27.47% compared to the amended assessment of 10 December 2024.

Costing

(29) In accordance with Article 19(3), point (i), of and Annex V, criterion 2.9, to Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the justification provided in the amended RRP on the amount of the estimated total cost of the RRP is to a medium extent (rating B) reasonable and plausible, is in line with the principle of cost efficiency and is commensurate to the expected national economic and social impact.

(30) Belgium has provided individual estimated costs for all the new measures that entail a cost in the RRP including the REPowerEU chapter, as well as individual justifications for all the measures whose modifications entailed a change in the cost estimates. The cost information provided by Belgium is mostly sufficiently detailed and substantiated. For new measures and measures where the reduction in the ambition is more than proportionate to the reduction in the financial envelope, Belgium provided estimates including references to actual tender data as well as information on the methodology used. The assessment of the cost estimates and supporting documents shows that the majority of the costs of the new measures are well justified, reasonable and plausible. Moreover, the changes in the cost estimates of the modified measures are sufficiently justified. Finally, the estimated total cost of the RRP is in line with the principle of cost-efficiency and commensurate with the expected national economic and social impact

Positive assessment

(31) Following the positive assessment by the Commission of the amended RRP, with the finding that the RRP satisfactorily complies with the criteria for assessment set out in Regulation (EU) 2021/241, in accordance with Article 20(2) of and Annex V to that Regulation, the reforms and investment projects necessary for the implementation of the amended RRP, the relevant milestones, targets and indicators, and the amount made available from the Union for the implementation of the amended RRP should be set out.

Financial contribution

(32) The estimated total costs of Belgium's amended RRP is EUR 5 265 406 908. As the amount of the estimated total cost of the amended RRP is higher than the updated maximum financial contribution available for Belgium, the financial contribution determined in accordance with Article 4a of Regulation (EU) 2021/1755 of the European Parliament and of the Council[10], and with Article 20(4) and Article 21a(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 that is allocated for Belgium's amended RRP should be equal to EUR 5 033 950 235. Therefore, the financial contribution made available to Belgium remains unchanged.

Loans

(33) In order to support additional reforms and investments, a total loan support of EUR 244 200 000 was made available to Belgium by means of Council Implementing

[10] Regulation (EU) 2021/1755 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 October 2021 establishing the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (OJ L 357, 8.10.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1755/oj).

Decision of 13 July 2021. Following the removal of Investment I-3.03b Cycling infrastructure Velo Plus of the Federal State; and Investment I-7.15 Backbone for the H2 of the Federal State under Article 21 of Regulation 2021/241, Belgium has not requested to use all of the freed-up loan resources to support new measures or to increase the level of implementation of existing measures within the RRP. The amount of the estimated total costs of the RRP is lower than the combined financial contribution available for Belgium and the loan support that had been made available to Belgium by means of Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021. Therefore, the total loan support made available to Belgium should be reduced to EUR 230 100 000.

(34) The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should therefore be amended accordingly. For the sake of clarity, the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be replaced entirely,

(35) This Decision should be without prejudice to procedures relating to distortions of the operation of the internal market that may be undertaken, in particular under Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty. It does not override the requirement for Member States to implement the measures in accordance with Union and national law and, in particular, to notify instances of potential State aid to the Commission under Article 108 of the Treaty'.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Approval of the assessment of the RRP

The assessment of the amended RRP of Belgium on the basis of the criteria provided for in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 is approved.

Article 2

Amendments

The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Belgium is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 2a, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

"1. The Union shall make available to Belgium a loan amounting to a maximum of EUR 230 100 000";

(2) the Annex to the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Belgium is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 3

Addressee

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President