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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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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

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 has proposed its positive assessment to the Council. The Council approved the positive assessment by means of the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021[2]. That CID was amended on 8 December 2023[3], 10 December 2024[4], 18 February 2025[5], 11 March 2025[6], and 27 May 2025[7].

(2) On 10 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

(3) The amendments to the RRP submitted by Belgium because of objective circumstances concern 13 measures.

(4) Belgium has explained that 13 measures have been amended to implement a better alternative allowing to reduce the administrative burden, whilst still reaching the objectives of the respective measures. This concerns milestone 42 of investment I-

[1] OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17.
[2] ST 10161/21 INIT; ST 10161/21 ADD 1
[3] ST 15570/23 INIT; ST 15570/23 ADD 1.
[4] ST 15974/24 INIT; ST 15974/24 ADD 1.
[5] ST 5654/25 INIT; ST 5654/25 ADD 1.
[6] ST 6545/25 INIT; ST 6545/25 ADD 1.
[7] ST XXX; ST XXX ADD 1 [insert the reference number of the amending CID and of its Annex].

1.24: Blue Deal, under component 1.3: Climate and Environment; description of investment I-2.01: 'Cybersecurity and resilient digital society' of the Federal State and target 46 of investment I-2.01, under component 2.1: Cybersecurity; milestone 82 of investment I-2.14: Development of an AI Institute in order to use this technology to meet societal challenges, under component 2.3: Optic Fibre, 5G, and new technologies; target 99 of investment I-3.07: 'Metro extension' of the Walloon Region and of investment I-3.08: 'Smart road signals' of the Walloon Region under component 3.2: Modal Shift; description of reform R-3.05 'Charging Stations – RBC' of the Brussels-Capital Region and target 121, target 122, and target 123 of reform R-3.05, under component 3.3: Greening road transport; description of measure R-4.06: 'An inclusive labour market' of Flemish Community, under component 4.2: Training and employment of vulnerable groups; description of measure I-4.07: 'Re-qualification strategy' of the Brussels Capital Region and milestone 143 of investment 143, under component 4.2: Training and employment of vulnerable groups; description of measure R-5.03: 'Learning account' of the Federal State, under component 5.1: Training and labour market; description of measure R-6.01: 'Spending reviews' of the Federal State, under component 6.1: Spending Reviews; description of measure R-6.05: 'Spending reviews' of the French Community, under component 6.1: Spending Reviews; milestone 228 of reform R-7.02: 'Reform of the appeal procedure to the Council of State' of the Federal State, under component 7.3: Renewable energy. On this basis, Belgium has requested to amend the aforementioned milestones, targets, and measure descriptions. Furthermore, Belgium has requested to extend the implementation timeline of milestone 226 under measure I-7.15 'Backbone for H2' of the Federal State under component 7.2: New emerging energy technologies. The Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

(5) The Commission considers that the reasons put forward by Belgium justify the amendment(s) pursuant to Article 21(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, and the Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 should be amended accordingly.

Distribution of milestones and targets

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

Corrections of clerical errors

(7) One clerical error has been identified in the text of the Council Implementing Decision, affecting one measure under one component. The Council Implementing Decision should be amended to correct the clerical error that does not reflect the content of the RRP submitted to the Commission on 13 July 2021, as agreed between the Commission and Belgium. The clerical error relates to the description of the following measure v1: Description of the reforms and investments for non-repayable financial support under component V. Audit and Control. These corrections do not affect the implementation of the measures concerned.

Commission's assessment

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

(9) 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 (ST 10161/21 INIT; ST 10161/21 ADD 1) of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the

assessment of the RRP for Belgium regarding the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the RRP against the assessment criteria laid down in Article 19(3), points (a), (b), (c), (d),(da), (db), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k).

Positive assessment

(10) 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 in the form of non-repayable financial support should be set out.

Financial contribution

(11) The estimated total costs of Belgium's amended RRP is EUR 5 279 567 854. As the amount of the estimated total costs 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[8], Article 20(4) and 21a(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 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

(12) The loan support made available to Belgium amounting to EUR 244 200 000 remains unchanged.

(13) Council Implementing Decision (ST 10161/21 INIT; ST 10161/21 ADD 1) of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the RRP for Belgium should therefore be amended accordingly. For the sake of clarity, the Annex to that Council Implementing Decision should be replaced entirely,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

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) Article 1 is replaced by the following:

"*Article 1*

Approval of the assessment of the RRP

The assessment of the modified RRP of Belgium on the basis of the criteria provided for in Article 19(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 is approved. The reforms and investment projects under the RRP, the arrangements and timetable for the monitoring and implementation of the RRP, including the relevant milestones and targets and the additional milestones and targets related to the payment of the loan, the relevant indicators relating to the fulfilment of the

[8] 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)

envisaged milestones and targets, and the arrangements for providing full access by the Commission to the underlying relevant data are set out in the Annex to this Decision.";

(2) the Annex is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2
Addressee

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President