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ANNEX 1

#### **ANNEX**

to the

## COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

on the financing of the Programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed and European Statistics and the adoption of the work programme for 2022

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#### **ANNEX I**

## SMP Bundle: Internal Market, Standardisation, Consumers and other financial services End-users

#### 1. SMP BUNDLE: GENERAL INTRODUCTION

This part of the SMP Work Programme, referred to as the "SMP Bundle", brings together predecessor programmes and former prerogative budget lines from different policy areas concerning the internal market and its governance tools, covering in particular market surveillance, company law, contract and extra-contractual law, standardisation, support for competition policy, customs and taxation, consumer and end-users of financial services, financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards, financial services, financial stability, the capital markets union and anti-money laundering.

The SMP Bundle implements the specific objectives of making the internal market more effective, company law, contract and extra-contractual law, standardisation and support for competition policy, customs and taxation, and customers and end-users in financial services. The work programme is not subject to comitology procedures.

The SMP Bundle is structured by objective and means of financing, notably:

- Article 3(2), point (a), of Regulation (EU) No 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1</sup> making the internal market more effective, including in the light of the digital transformation, by
- (i) facilitating the prevention and removal of discriminatory, unjustified or disproportionate obstacles and supporting the development, implementation and enforcement of Union law in the areas of the internal market for goods and services, including by improving the application of the principle of mutual recognition, of public procurement rules, of company law, of contract and extra-contractual law, of anti-money laundering rules, of the free movement of capital and of financial services and competition rules, including by developing user-centric governance tools;
- (ii) supporting effective market surveillance throughout the Union, with a view to ensuring that only safe and compliant products offering a high level of protection of consumers and other end-users are made available on the Union market, including products sold online, as well as with a view to achieving greater homogeneity among, and increasing the capacity of, the market surveillance authorities across the Union.
  - Article 3(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) No 2021/690: ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market through standardisation processes that
- (i) enable the financing of European standardisation and the participation of all relevant stakeholders in setting up European standards;

Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, animals, food and feed, and European statistics (Single Market Programme) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014 (OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 1).

- (ii) support the development of high-quality international financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards, facilitate their integration into the Union law, and promote the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting.
  - Article 3(2), point (d), of of Regulation (EU) No 2021/690: promoting the interests of consumers and ensuring a high level of consumer protection and product safety by (ii): in respect of consumers and other financial services end-users: enhancing the participation of consumers, other financial services end-users and representatives of civil society in financial services policy-making; promoting a better understanding of the financial sector and of the different categories of commercialised financial products; ensuring that the interests of consumers in the area of retail financial services are protected.

The SMP Bundle is executed through annual or multiannual work programmes and through support measures that will help achieve its objectives. The work programme for 2022 is the second to be implemented in this seven-years period, with a total budget of EUR 111 318 143. The proposed Programme will be implemented by direct management, using in particular grants and procurement, and by indirect management with the OECD. While overall responsibility for the SMP remains with the Commission, some implementing tasks are delegated to the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA).

The work programme is coordinated by GROW with internal governance arrangements set out within a Memorandum of Understanding<sup>[1]</sup> signed by the Directorate Generals participating in the SMP: COMP, ESTAT, FISMA, GROW, JUST, SANTE and TAXUD.

On the basis of the objectives mentioned above in Article 3(2) of the Regulation (EU) No 2021/690, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2022, as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management): EUR 35 490 786
- for procurement (implemented under direct management): EUR 69 745 397
- for other actions or expenditure: EUR 6 081 960

#### 1.1. Budget lines

Under budget Chapter 03 02 Single Market Programme:

- Article 03 02 01 Making the Internal Market more effective
- Article 03 02 03 European standardisation and international financial reporting and auditing standards
- Item 03 02 04 02 The participation of end users in financial services policy making

#### 1.2. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/690 establishing a programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, the area of plants, food and feed, and European statistics and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014 and (EU) No 652/2014

Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2021/690

Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation

## 1.3. Objectives pursued

This part of the Programme has the following specific objectives laid down in Article 3(2), points (a), (c) and point (d)(ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690

To contribute to making the internal market more effective or to the completion of **the internal market**, its operation and development, and in particular to:

- ensure that citizens and businesses can enjoy the benefits of the internal market without borders and are able to exercise those rights and take advantage of those opportunities in full;
- promote and support conformity assessment, accreditation, market surveillance, mutual recognition and policies to eliminate barriers for products in the single market;
- monitor and evaluate the measures relating to the practical exercise by citizens and businesses of their rights and opportunities with a view to identifying and facilitating the removal of any obstacles which may be preventing them from exercising those rights in full;
- make the internal market more effective, facilitate the prevention and removal of obstacles, support the development, implementation and enforcement of the Union law in the areas of anti-money laundering, free movement of capital and financial services including the development of governance tools; protect consumers, the interests of businesses and the environment by preventing the circulation of non-compliant or dangerous products on the single market

To contribute to the Union's competition policy, including by allowing to tackle implications for competition and functioning of the internal market resulting from the green and digital transition of the economy and business environment, supporting networks and a wider and deeper cooperation with Member States and their authorities and courts, supporting cooperation with third country authorities and widening outreach activities. Through the **internal market governance tools** (the Your Europe portal, hub to the single digital gateway, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT, the Internal Market Information system and the Single Market Scoreboard);

- contribute to building trust in a better functioning Single Market and improving citizens' daily lives and businesses' ability to cross-border [2] trade;
- inform, raise awareness, provide tailor-made advice on citizens' and businesses' personal EU rights, increase networking and training activities,

- promote knowledge and monitor and assess Member State's performance under the Single Market;
- provide support and guidance to businesses, ensure proper performance measurement via an upgraded Single Market Scoreboard, improve the provision of information to businesses on their access to finance (Your Europe), and through SOLVIT, contribute to the Single Market Enforcement Action plan;
- a range of new activities can be foreseen for more targeted support to **ecosystems**, as announced in the Commission's Industrial Strategy for Europe.

Ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market through **standardisation processes** that enable the financing of European standardisation and stakeholder participation in setting up European standards, in particular by:

- supporting the functioning of the European standardisation organisations;
- development of high-quality standards and standardisation deliverables;
- verifying the quality of the harmonised standards, which provide for the legal effect of presumption of conformity;
- enhancing the involvement of stakeholders representing SMEs, consumers, environmental interests and trade unions in the standardisation process (referred to as the Annex III to Regulation (EU) 1025/2012);
- promoting the international dimension of European standardisation;
- making standards accessible in all Union languages

Empowering consumer and civil society and ensuring **high level of consumer protection and product safety** through:

- studies, analyses, data collection in the area of customs and in the area of direct and indirect taxation policies;
- communication campaigns; databases access and data collection; support services and data collection in the scope of the Customs Laboratories European Network;
- development of information systems in support of the Customs and Taxation policy; the provision of publications, tools, library services and other supporting services related to the supply of tax and customs information.

The actions related to the objective of 'International financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards' will

- support the development of high-quality international financial and nonfinancial reporting and auditing standards, facilitate their integration into the Union law and promote the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting;

The action related to the objective of promoting the interests of **consumers and end-users of financial services** and the promotion of consumer protection and product safety in the area of **financial services** will contribute to:

- enhancing the participation of consumers, other financial services end-users and civil society in financial services policy-making;
- promoting a better understanding of the financial sector and of the different categories of commercialised financial products;

- ensuring that the interests of consumers in the area of retail financial services are protected.

## 1.4. Expected results

- Better functioning of the Single Market on the ground for citizens and businesses:
- Better consumer protection, improved level-playing field for EU businesses, increased environmental protection;
- Increased access to and use of information, advice and problem-solving services by citizens and business as a result of increased activity on Your Europe portal, SOLVIT, Your Europe Advice, IMI, SMS, SDG);
- Improved administrative cooperation between Member State administrations (e.g. the number of administrative exchanges through the IMI tool and the number of cases recorded in the Information and Communication System for Market Surveillance (ICSMS));
- Effective and up-to-date competition policy enforcement and rules, enhanced cooperation with authorities in- and outside the EU, and increased stakeholder awareness of Union competition policy;
- Improved support to the Commission's customs and taxation regulatory work to foster the implementation of the internal market;
- Production of European Standards and European standardisation deliverables, including translation in other Union languages;
- Appropriate representation and effective participation of SMEs, consumer organisations and environmental and social stakeholders in the standardisation activities;
- Promotion and enhancement of the European standardisation system and of European standards and European standardisation deliverables at international level;
- Ongoing development of high-quality international financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards, their integration into Union law where appropriate and the development of best practices in corporate reporting;
- Assessment of the implementation of Union legislation by Member States, evaluation of whether the existing legislation is fit for purpose and identification of potential areas of action where new risks emerge, with a continuous involvement of stakeholders throughout the policy cycle;
- Implementation and development of the internal market in the area of financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union including sustainable finance:
- Monitoring of financial markets and financial stability;
- Ongoing enhancement of the active participation and involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users, as well as stakeholders representing the interests of consumers and other financial services end-users, in Union and in other relevant multilateral policy-making in the area of financial services. A better understanding of the financial sector and of the different categories of commercialised financial products. Protection of the interests of consumers in the area of retail financial services.

#### 2. INTERNAL MARKET

The appropriations for the activity "Internal market for goods and services" come under the following budget headings (amounts including EFTA appropriations):

03.02 01 01	Operation and development of the internal market of goods and services – EUR 29 118 991
03.02 01 02	Internal Market Governance Tools – EUR 5 607 297
03.02 01 03	TAXUD regulatory work support – Implementation and development of the internal market – EUR 3 300 000 $$
03.02 01 04	Company Law – EUR 1 025 100
03.02 01 05	Competition policy for a stronger union in the digital age - EUR 20 382 063
03.02 01 06	Implementation and development of the internal market for financial services -

03 02 01 07 Market Surveillance – EUR 14 564 621

EUR 5 484 285

These amounts include appropriations arising from the participation of EEA EFTA States to the programme and are therefore subject to the agreement on their participation..

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 68 645 397 and the global budgetary envelope reserved for grants is EUR 5 155 000.

# 2.1. Budget line 03.020101 – Operation and development of the internal market of goods and services

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities related to the internal market for goods and services, public procurement, mutual recognition and in particular market surveillance.

The actions to be financed are managed by DG GROW and the budget breakdown for year 2022 is as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (2.1.1): EUR 1 555 000
- for procurements (implemented under direct management) (2.1.2): EUR 24 041 031
- for other actions, in particular administrative arrangements (2.1.3): EUR 3 522 960

<sup>[1]</sup> Single Market Governance, 29 January 2020.

<sup>[2]</sup> For the purposes of those Annexes, "cross-border" covers both: issues involving several Member States throughout Europe and issues in neighbouring regions on both sides of a shared border. The impact of the well-functioning Single market, but also where it is not yet completed are in particularly felt in the border regions, which account for 150 million people (some 30% of the Union population) and for 30% of the Union's GDP; see Communication "Boosting growth and cohesion in EU border regions", footnote 2, p. 2.

#### 2.1.1. *Grants*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 1 555 000

2.1.1.1. European Organisation Technical Assessment (EOTA) operating grant

#### Amount

EUR 550 000

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The beneficiary is designated in the basic act (Article 10(1),point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 referring to Articles 15 and 16 of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012) – Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation<sup>2</sup>.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

The action is to allow ensuring that European assessment documents for construction products are efficiently prepared, used consistently in the context of publication of European technical assessments, and made available to the public.

Indicative timetable and maximum co-financing rate

Time for the direct award: Q1 2022 Maximum co-financing rate: 50%

## Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG GROW.

2.1.1.2. European Cooperation for Accreditation and for the operation of the peer evaluation system of National Accreditation Bodies

#### Amount

EUR 730 000

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Operating grant on an existing Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Cooperation for Accreditation. The beneficiary is designated by the basic act (Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) No 2021/690), Article 14(6) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008) - Article 195, point (d), of the Financial Regulation.

2

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

The operating grant is to ensure the functioning of the organisation, which implements the EU's accreditation policy

Indicative timetable and maximum co-financing rate

Direct award: O2 2022

Maximum co-financing rate: 95%

#### **Implementation**

This action will be implemented by DG GROW.

2.1.1.3. Framework Partnership Agreement covering the European Cooperation for Accreditation and the operation of the peer evaluation system

Framework Partnership Agreement to European Cooperation for Accreditation, follow-up of an existing FPA that is expiring in December 2022.

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award.

Eligiblity, selection and award criteria

The beneficiary, European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA) is designated by a basic act (Article 195(d) Financial Regulation (EU) No 2018/1046/2012), Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) No 2021/690, Article 14(6) of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008.

EA has the fundamental function to ascertain the competence of the national accreditation bodies.

## Description of the action

LEGAL BASIS: Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products

Objectives pursued and expected results: Smooth functioning of the accreditation infrastructure provided for under Regulation (EC) No 765/2008.

Indicative timetable: Signature of new FPA in Q3/2022.

Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs: 95%

Eligibility, exclusion, selection and award criteria for all calls for proposals mentioned in paragraph 2.1.2

Each proposal will be assessed on the basis of eligibility, exclusion, selection and assessment criteria indicated in the calls for proposals. These criteria may be defined and summarised as follows:

Eligibility and exclusion criteria: The applicants must meet several types of requirements:

Geographical criteria

Legal status criteria

Exclusion criteria pursuant to Article 136 of the Financial Regulation

Criteria concerning the formal presentation of grant requests, such as submission by the deadline, completeness of the information provided, and compliance with financing conditions.

Selection criteria: Applicants who have not been excluded during the eligibility/exclusion phase must prove their financial and operational capacity to complete the proposed action or work programme. First of all, the applicant must have reliable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain its activity throughout the period during which the subsidised activity or exercise is being carried out, and to participate in its funding. Secondly, it must have the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully implement the proposed action or work programme, unless specifically provided otherwise in the basic act.

The verification of financial capacity shall not apply to natural persons in receipt of scholarships, to natural persons most in need and in receipt of direct support, to public bodies or to international organisations. The authorising officer responsible may, depending on a risk assessment, waive the obligation to verify the operational capacity of public bodies or international organisations.

Award criteria: For all calls for proposals, the proposals of applicants which pass the selection phase will be evaluated according to the following criteria: a) the relevance of the application to the objectives of the action; b) the visibility of the European institutions' involvement in the action; c) the impact on the target group and the multiplier effect of the action; d) the quality of the project; e) the budget and effectiveness. If the number of points obtained is below the quality thresholds defined in the call for proposals, the proposal will not be evaluated further. These criteria and their weightings, as well as the minimum number of points, will be adapted to the specific characteristics of each call for proposals.

### 2.1.2. Procurements

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement in 2022 under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 24 041 031.

2.1.2.1. Framework Contract for the procurement of economic studies and analysis to Impact Assessments

General description of the contracts envisaged

Policy preparation in the Commission is supported by both retrospective evaluations and forward looking impact assessments, which are key elements of the Union decision-making process meant to promote more informed political choices and contribute to Better Regulation. Both look at how a problem is, or should be, addressed to achieve the desired objectives taking

into account costs and benefits. Both are based on an integrated approach that addresses impacts across the environmental, social and economic pillars, both rely on an in-depth economic analysis. The overall objective of this framework contract is to facilitate the procurement of economic studies and other supporting services which will feed into the impact assessments and evaluations of the policies of DG GROW. The main reference for this exercise will be Better Regulation Guidelines and Better Regulation Toolbox.

## Implementation

**DG GROW** 

## 2.1.2.2. Data, information and knowledge.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Purchase of necessary data, information (electronic or physical storage), subscriptions (specialised professional reviews, etc.) relevant to the internal market.

### Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General.

## 2.1.2.3. Impact assessments and evaluations

## General description of the contracts envisaged

The impact assessments are to focus on the analysis of possible reviews of existing legislation and impacts they might have on the functioning of the internal market. Recommendations for possible new legislative proposals must be assessed as well with the same objectives.

Evaluations of Union measures are necessary to assess the impact, efficiency and effectiveness of the policy actions put in place as regards the proper functioning of the internal market for goods and services.

#### **Implementation**

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General.

#### 2.1.2.4. Technical support

#### General description of the contracts envisage

The contracts have as an objective to provide technical support in a series of areas relating to the internal market, including support on European Assessment Documents, support for the application of different legislation (new approach directives and regulations), editorial support (including support to legal text drafting), support in the area of construction, mobile machinery, lower concentration of interest values, fire tests, ecodesign, sound emissions, vehicles, mobile phones, textile, promotion and technical support for the implementation of the European Single Procurement Document, eCertis and eForms.

#### **Implementation**

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General.

#### 2.1.2.5. Co-ordination groups of the Notified bodies

## General description of the contracts envisaged

Technical secretariats of notified bodies have been set up with the objective to enable close cooperation between the competent bodies to ensure, as a result, consistent technical application of various Directives on goods. Those secretariats must be financed each year to allow ensuring in particular that the implementation of Union directives does not create obstacles to the good functioning of the internal market. Administrative secretariats are necessary for the coordination groups of notified bodies.

#### Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG GROW

## 2.1.2.6. Support of mutual recognition in the area of goods

#### General description of the contracts envisaged

The contracts could cover awareness-raising campaigns, education and training, exchange of officials and of best practices, cooperation among Product Contact Points and competent authorities, and the technical and logistic support for this cooperation, and the collection of data related to the functioning of the principle of mutual recognition and its impact on the Single Market for goods. These activities would be financed in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2019/515 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 on the mutual recognition of goods lawfully marketed in another Member State and repealing Regulation (EC) No 764/2008

#### **Implementation**

This action will be implemented by DG GROW.

2.1.2.7. Workshops, conferences, dissemination, meetings, trainings, awareness, compliance activities and information campaigns

## General description of the contracts envisaged

Activities and workshops on the "new approach" legislation (concerning notably noise, machinery, radio and telecommunications terminal equipment, construction products, ecodesign), on REACH (notably to evaluate possible overlaps with other existing legislation), on chemicals, cosmetics, fertilising products, public procurement, Digital Transformation, on the principle of mutual recognition and any other issues related to the internal market for goods and services. Training activities on sustainable and innovation public procurement.

#### Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General.

#### 2.1.2.8. Translations of notified texts

General description of the contracts envisaged

Translations of texts notified by the Member States under Directive (EU) 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>3</sup> in all Union languages.

## Implementation

DG GROW.

2.1.2.9. Studies and economic analysis concerning the internal market of goods and services

General description of the contracts envisaged

Studies concerning the internal market for goods in different areas related to the legislation currently referenced in the budgetary comments, or under preparation, in particular impact of new technologies and artificial intelligence systems on market surveillance activities and others (e.g. product safety, construction, noise, vehicles, eco-design, public procurement, intellectual property...).

## Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General.

## 2.1.2.10. Information technology

General description of the contracts envisaged

IT development, maintenance, services and work on databases and IT systems. Management of databases on notification procedures and for the implementation of European legislation. Rationalisation of the existing systems in order to make them more interoperable and efficient and move towards a one-stop shop.

#### **Implementation**

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General, in particular DIGIT

#### 2.1.3. Other actions

The global budgetary envelope reserved for administrative arrangements and reimbursement of experts under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 3 522 960

2.1.3.1. Safety for automated vehicles: administrative arrangements with the

EUR 500 000

#### Description

This Administrative arrangement will fund the work of the JRC on technical support for developing a new test method for automated vehicles as part of the implementing rules of Regulation 2019/2144<sup>4</sup>.

Indicative timetable for implementation

Q1 2022

2.1.3.2. JRC support for the new batteries regulation

#### Amount

EUR 847 960

#### Description

Follow up of the Administrative arrangement already beginning in 2021. GROW contribution for the JRC support for the new batteries regulation, COM/2020/798 (carbon footprint methodology; performance and durability specifications for electric vehicles and industrial batteries; state of health specifications; safety specifications for stationary energy storage systems).

Indicative timetable for implementation

Q2 2022

2.1.3.3. Preparatory studies for horizontal topic(s) under the Ecodesign working plan 2021-25

#### Amount

EUR 350 000

## Description

Administrative arrangement with the JRC to perform: Study for horizontal topic(s) of interest identified within the Ecodesign working plan 2021-25 – to impose 'horizontal requirements'; study on improvements and updates to the Ecoreport tool – in support to the formulation of Ecodesign requirements; study on improvements and updates to the Ecoreport tool – in support to the formulation of Ecodesign requirements.

Indicative timetable for implementation

Q2 2022

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Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on type-approval requirements for motor vehicles and their trailers, and systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles, as regards their general safety and the protection of vehicle occupants and vulnerable road users (OJ L 325, 16.12.2019, p. 1)

2.1.3.4. SPI – Lead market initiative. Development of Lead Market category rules on low carbon high sustainability markets

#### Amount

EUR 400 000

#### Description

Development of sectoral rules to identify low carbon high sustainability markets to be promoted through the lead market approach. Sectors covered will be cement, steel, aluminium, chemicals. This Administrative arrangement with the JRC will also support further methodological developments related to SPI implementation.

Indicative timetable for implementation

Q4 2022

2.1.3.5. Administrative arrangement on emissions

#### Amount

EUR 1 200 000

## Description

Recurring Administrative arrangement with the JRC on emissions in support to the development of emissions legislation, with particular emphasis in implementing rules for Euro 7.

Indicative timetable for implementation

Q1 2022

2.1.3.6. Reimbursements to experts in accordance with Article 77(4), point (c), of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

#### Amount

EUR 10 000

#### Description

Programme for exchange of REACH and CLP inspectors. Art 77.4.c of REACH requires the Forum to coordinate the exchange of inspectors. This is an extension of a programme which proved to be useful (2017-2020). Supports harmonisation and strengthening of REACH enforcement in Member States.

2.1.3.7. Reimbursements to experts/committee members

#### Amount

EUR 15 000

#### Description

DG GROW Economic Seminars Program in cooperation with academic institutions, a series of leading economists are invited to present their researh in a seminar or a workshop. Top researchers in the field participate in the events in order to provide DG GROW staff a critical overview of the most recent research in microeconomics.

## 2.1.3.8. Study on SAR for mobile phones

Amount EUR 50 000

## Description

SAR (specific absorption rate) is a technical parameter used to measure the rate of radiofrequency energy absorption by the human body from a radio equipment and which is related to the essential requirement laid down in Article 3.1.(a) of the Directive 2014/53/EU. In the specific case of mobile phones, there are different methodologies in the scientific literature that can result in different measurements. The objective of this study is to carry out a technical analysis of those methodologies from the technical perspective and also the applicability of them by the different authorities in the most relevant territories. This study is necessary for the Commission to ensure legal certainty when assessing the standards developed by the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation (CENELEC).

## 2.1.3.9. Fellowship programme

Amount

## EUR 150 000

#### Description

Reimbursement of expert fees: DG GROW will launch in 2022 a Call for expression of interest for a fellowship programme, with a remuneration of external experts based on Article 237 of the Financial Regulation. It will consist of an Advisory board to the Director General of DG GROW on selected topics. The Board will consist on top level economists familiar with industrial policy, macro- and structural policies. It will include ad-hoc advising, preparation of analytical and position papers, participation in workshops.

#### 2.1.4. *Indirect management*

2.1.4.1. Microeconomic analysis of industrial ecosystems

Amount

EUR 275 000

Type of applicants targeted

The action will be managed by OECD under indirect management (Article 62(1)(c)(i) of the Financial Regulation)

Microeconomic analysis of industrial ecosystems. There is a need to deepen the understanding of the 14 industrial ecosystems and, in particular, in relation to global value chains and strategic dependencies.

- the myriad of interlinkages and dependencies inside the ecosystems among ecosystem actors and notably firms (start-ups, MNEs, SMEs,....) and between firms and other players (e.g. research and academia, RTOs, local governments);
- the local dimension of those linkages and how they evolve across the different ecosystems (or parts of those);
- the role of specific (emerging) technologies, sectors or innovative business models;
- the decarbonisation of industry (e.g. embodied Co2, circular economy) or the use of different skills in the production process of sectors, to support our work on industrial transition pathways for the ecosystems

In terms of data needs, the aim would be to get as much disaggregated, heterogeneous and timely data as possible. Any improvement in this direction with the OECD Trade in value-added (TiVA) and other databases would be most welcome. For instance, there would be a potential to further develop input-output data, ideally, at 2-digit NACE. That would for instance help distinguishing between firms' characteristics (by size, foreign ownership or exporting status). We would like to address in relation to ecosystems or parts of it, the following should be addressed:

- Business demographics and dynamics;
- How sectors, ecosystems, countries and firms' characteristics interact with each other;
- Assessment of the links between academia, basic research, other actors and firms;
- Assessment of the role of local players (e.g. governments);
- The role of start-ups and multinationals in driving innovation and new business models;
- How the industry is adjusting in view of the transformation (digital, green);
- What is the role of innovation in driving the transformation? Is it firm, sector, ecosystem specific or general purpose?;
- The role of technologies present and emerging ones in shaping and driving ecosystems;

Evaluating countries strengths and weaknesses in key emerging technologies, incl. from the ecosystems perspective (e.g. those key for the transitions or health related). DG GROW and OECD will liaise with DGs managing respective ecosystems, including aerospace&defence ecosystem, to ensure analytical consistency.

#### 2.2. Budget line 03.020102 Internal Market Governance Tools

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities related to the internal market governance tools such as awareness raising, promotion, networking, training activities, knowledge sharing, content sharing, userability improvements, management of the YEA network, outreach activities and IT support for actions.

The actions to be financed are managed by DG GROW.

#### 2.2.1. Procurements

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement (implemented under direct management) in 2022 under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 5 607 297

2.2.1.1. Communication activities: awareness raising, promotion, networking, training activities, knowledge sharing, content sharing, usability improvements.

General description of the contracts envisaged

Increasing the awareness about and increasing traffic to Your Europe/Single Digital Gateway, the Internal Market Information System (IMI), Your Europe Advice and the SOLVIT network through targeted promotion activities towards the different user groups (such as workers, consumers, students, seniors, businesses) and their roof organisations, with a focus on SEA, online activities, social media and usability improvements.

#### Implementation

DG GROW will implement this action

## 2.2.1.2. Single Market Scoreboard 2.0. (SMS)

General description of the contracts envisaged

The Scoreboard illustrates Member State performance under the Single Market based on a range of indicators, many from the Single Market governance tools. Performance is presented according to measurable indicators and summarised using a "traffic light" system. It is updated on a yearly basis to monitor developments. The objective of this initiative is to upgrade the IT system of the Scoreboard into a 2.0 version for monitoring the Single Market policies that encompass the use of data analytics and data mining tools, to help identify barriers within the Single Market across sectors, by bringing together different sources of information within Union institutions and potentially beyond. The information should be presented in a more user-friendly way to reach a broader audience than the current (mostly administrations, universities and think tanks).

#### Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to DIGIT.

#### Additional information

For the expansion of the scope, DG GROW will work in close collaboration with DGs (e.g. REGIO Border Focal Point, ENV, etc) to identify possible area where synergies can be exploited, adding new thematic areas to the Single Market Scoreboard. Monitoring a broader range of policy areas and indicators within the Single Market would support closer evaluation of the functioning of ecosystems and their recovery, by better understanding the effectiveness of devised policy measures and by highlighting obstacles that businesses and citizens face on the ground.

## 2.2.1.3. IT activities for the Single Digital Gateway (SDG)

General description of the contracts envisaged

IT development; translation; communication

#### Implementation

DG GROW will implement this action and through sub-delegation and co-delegation to DIGIT and possibly other Directorates-General

#### Additional information

The action consists of continuing implementation, running, maintenance and further development of the Single Digital Gateway (Regulation (EU) 2018/1724). The translation of the web pages of the Member States will continue. The initial investment costs in 2022 will cover:

- IT development (procurement using a framework contract);
- translation (service-level agreement with the Translation Centre in Luxembourg).

As the information and assistance service as well as feedback parts of the gateway will be running as from 12 December 2020, the running costs will cover:

- licencing costs for the search facility (existing contract);
- maintenance and new needs (procurement);
- communication (procurement).

The action indicators will be the quality feedback from the users, the number of users.

#### 2.2.1.4. Your Europe (YE Webmaster and Editor)

General description of the contracts envisaged

Your Europe (YE) and Your Europe supporting tool (YEST): Cost for maintenance, technical development, support of the content management tool and addition of functionalities. Editorial work to further develop the on-line portal, in line with the requirements for iterative improvements of the Single Digital Gateway Regulation. Day-to-day management of content and web functionalities. Usability and accessibility improvements. Rationalisation and integration.

## Implementation

DG GROW through use of framework contracts for external resources

#### Additional information

The online portal provides citizens and businesses with information, and refers them directly to services such as Your Europe Advice and SOLVIT. Your Europe is the hub of the Single Digital Gateway established by Regulation 2018/1724.

The costs relate to the further development of the website, support tasks as well as training

sessions and material for the users of the tool. It includes organisation of two annual meetings of the SDG coordination group as well as promotion activities.

## 2.2.1.5. Management of the Your Europe Advice (YEA) network and outreach activities

General description of the contracts envisaged

Hosting, maintenance, rationalisation, integration and further development of the YEA-database. The budget will cover the costs for the provision of the service, outreach activities and further developing cohesion with other services e.g. SOLVIT, Your Europe.

## Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to DIGIT

#### Additional information

Your Europe Advice offers citizens tailored information and advice on their personal EU rights in the internal market, free of charge and in all 24 Union languages. Citizens receive comprehensive advice within maximum a week and are directed when appropriate, to the authority or other body best placed to solve their problem. It is run by an external contractor, European Citizens' Action Service (ECAS), who has network of around 60 legal experts in all Member States; it is financed by DG GROW.

## 2.2.1.6. Codelegated Credits for IMI:

General description of the contracts envisaged

Hosting, maintenance, rationalisation, integration, further development and support of the **Internal Market Information System**.

IMI Memorandum of understanding & DIGIT Hosting and Services for Internal Market Tools Information Systems in DIGIT Data Cente. The cost of maintenance and developments of SOLVIT are also covered by the IMI budget, as SOLVIT is a module of IMI.

#### Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to DIGIT.

#### Additional information

**IMI** is a multilingual online application offered as a free service to Member States. It allows authorities to ask each other questions, notify of developments and store information to share. It makes it easy for authorities to: identify their counterpart in another Member State; manage the exchange of information, including personal data, on the basis of simple and unified procedures.

Specific objectives include, improvements to IMI for existing and new user communities, development required for expansion to new policy areas, upgrades to ensure IMI is based on

up to date technology and implementation of corporate solutions (e.g. EU Login).

Expected results include strengthening administrative cooperation between Member States, contributing to enforcement of Single Market legislation and to the rationalisation of IT systems provided by the Commission.

The **SOLVIT** network is one of the most effective out-of-court dispute settlement mechanisms, dealing with cross-border problems faced by citizens or businesses, and arising as a result of the misapplication of internal market legislation by a public administration in another Member State. The system uses an online database, accessible to all national coordination centres to which citizens and businesses can directly submit their problems.

SOLVIT Workshops and Newcomers trainings are essential for the good functioning and success of the network. These are organised in order to monitor the performance of the case processing and compliance with common quality standards; to inform on developments concerning SOLVIT at European and national level; to coordinate and develop outreach activities; to provide legal education and to strengthen the team spirit within the network.

## 2.2.1.7. IMI - External resources - business analyst & IT support

General description of the contracts envisaged

Engagement of external resources to perform analysis and support activities, reinforcing the IMI team in DG GROW responsible for the provision of the tool, operational support, coordinating the IMI network and expanding IMI to new areas.

## Implementation

DG GROW through use of a framework contract for external resources

#### Additional information

Analysis and documentation for new expansion areas to be supported by IMI and provision of second line user support.

2.2.1.8. IT related activities for Internal Market governance tools and projects

General description of the contracts envisaged

Management of legislation and of initiatives/implementation/reports and IT management

System Administration and Database management activities: Security, Operation and maintenance of Information systems, Application support, Project Management, Data Management for policy, Technical and corrective Maintenance for Administrative Information Systems, Application Support (Basic), LSA services.

#### Implementation

DG GROW will implement this action and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General, in particular DIGIT.

#### Additional information

This includes DG GROW B3 supporting services guaranteeing the coherence and efficient management of the activities deployed in the unit. (Application Support, Enterprise Project Management Office, Architecture Office, Program & project management support, Business Process Modelling, Security management, DEVOPS, System Administration, technical evolutions, technical migrations, coordination with DIGIT, hardware & software and general support) as well as tasks for the inception phase of projects (Proof of Concept, Problem Statement, Business case). All tasks for the maintenance and development of Information Systems are also covered. Most of those activities are undertaken by external personnel hired mainly through DIGIT or other DG's Framework Contracts

## 2.3. Budget line 03.020103: Taxud regulatory work support – Implementation and development of the internal market

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities related to customs and taxations regulatory work to foster the implementation of the internal market.

The actions to be financed are managed by DG TAXUD.

#### 2.3.1. Procurements

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement (implemented under direct management) in 2022 under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 3 300 000.

2.3.1.1. Studies, impact assessements, communication campaigns, databases, tools and supporting services, information systems

General description of the contracts envisaged

Studies, consultations, impact assessments, communication actions, acquisition of databases and data sources, IT services and systems, and other actions targetting the implementation of the internal market in complementarity to DG TAXUD's Customs and Fiscalis programmes

Acquisition of support services, services for data collection and acquisition of data sources in the field of scientific customs

#### **Implementation**

Actions will be implemented by DG TAXUD by signing specific contracts under existing or new multi-annual framework contracts or administrative arrangements with JRC.

#### 2.3.1.2. Information on new tender procedures

General description of the contracts envisaged

The following new tender procedure is expected to be launched in 2022. One procedure in view of concluding a multi-annual framework contract:

- Acquisition of data on financial accounts of companies: estimation of publication of the procurement procedure: second quarter of 2022. The estimated value of the framework

contract will be EUR 5 000 000 with a maximum duration of 4 years.

## Implementation

Actions will be implemented by DG TAXUD.

## 2.4. Budget line 03.020104 Company law

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities in the areas of company law, contract and extracontractual law, including anti-money laundering.

The actions to be financed are managed by DG JUST and DG FISMA, the budget breakdown for year 2022 is as follows:

- for procurements (implemented under direct management) (2.4.1): EUR 775 100
- for other actions, (2.4.2): EUR 250 000

#### 2.4.1. Procurements

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement in 2022 under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 775 100.

2.4.1.1. Company law (including contract law and anti-money laundering)

In total, around 5 to 10 direct contracts shall be signed. The contracts shall be awarded following procurement procedures or as specific contracts under framework contracts to which DG FISMA and/or DG JUST have access. The procurement procedures may be launched during the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarter of 2022.

#### Implementation

The action shall be implemented directly by DG FISMA and JUST

#### Additional information

Studies/reports/compliance assessments and IT developments in the field of company law, contract and extra-contractual law and anti-money laundering, including the international dimension of these policies.

Expert meetings in the field of company law, contract law and anti-money laundering

#### 2.4.2. *Other actions or expenditure*

Contributions paid by the Union as subscriptions to bodies of which it is a member. Amount:

#### EUR 250 000

## Description

The Commission is a founding member since 1989 of the Financial Action Task Force which is an intergovernmental body defining international standards on anti-money laundering, countering terrorism financing and countering proliferation financing. The fight against money laundering has been a top political priority of the Union for a number of years, based on the need to protect the financial system from misuse. To further this objective, in 2022, the

## 2.5. Budget line 03.020105: Competition policy for a stronger union in the digital age

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities for support to competition policy in the digital age.

The actions to be financed are managed by DG COMP, the budget breakdown for year 2022 is as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.5.1): EUR 1 600 000
- for procurements (implemented under direct management) (1.5.2): EUR 18 376 063
- for other actions, in particular administrative arrangements (1.5.3): EUR 406 000

#### 2.5.1. *Grants*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grant actions under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 1 600 000

2.5.1.1. Training of national competition authorities and/or non-competition national enforcers

#### Amount

EUR 600 000

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

- National Competition Authorities designated by a respective Member State pursuant to Article 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 as being responsible for the application of Articles 101 and 102 TFEU.
- Non-competition national enforcers:
- public authorities of a Member State active in the area of criminal or administrative investigations;
- public authorities of a Member State providing trainings to public authorities of a Member State active in the area of criminal or administrative investigations.
- Associations/networks of public authorities of Member States active in the area of criminal or administrative investigations or providing trainings to public authorities of Member States active in the area of criminal or administrative investigations.

The grants will awarded be in accordance with Article 195(f) of the Financial Regulation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals based on Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

#### The action is aimed at

 national competition authorities, for increasing their capabilities in Intelligence and Investigative activities. The expected result is to strengthen the overall enforcement of EU competition rules by the national competition authorities in the European Competition Network. - non-competition national enforcers, for raising competition awareness and develop investigative cooperation. The expected result is to promote a proactive enforcement by facilitating cooperation inside the EU and increase awareness of the EU competition rules among various enforcers specialised in economic and financial investigations.

Indicative implementation timetable: for the year 2022.

Qualitative and quantitative indicators for the actions:

- number of staff members in national competition authorities reached by the training and awareness raising activities, and/or
- number of staff members in non-competition national enforcers trained in EU competition law.

## Implementation

Actions will be implemented by DG COMP

2.5.1.2. Call for proposals for action grants to support training of national judges in EU competition law

#### Amount

EUR 1 000 000

Type of applicants targeted by the grant award

Public authorities, public or private non-for-profit organisations duly established in one of the eligible countries, or an international organisation

## Description

The objective is to contribute to an effective and coherent application of EU competition law in the Member States. This includes both the antitrust rules (Articles 101 and 102 TFEU) and the state aid rules (Articles 107 and 108 TFEU).

The focus of this call for proposals is the improvement of knowledge, application and interpretation of EU competition law.

Indicative implementation timetable: for the year 2022.

Qualitative and quantitative indicators for the action:

- number of national judges reached by the training and awareness raising activities.

## Implementation

Actions will be implemented by DG COMP

#### 2.5.2. Procurements

## 2.5.2.1. Competition policy for a stronger union in the digital age

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 18 376 063.

#### General description of what the envisaged contracts will cover:

- expertise, studies, evaluations, impact assessments, surveys, consultations, legal or economic analysis, market data gathering, market intelligence and other types of support;
- acquisition of data and other information sources;
- capacity building activities and trainings in the field of competition;
- support for exchange of best practices and expertise;
- organisation of meetings, workshops, trainings, seminars and conferences which support the development and strengthening of cooperation and cooperation structures with and between enforcement bodies, national courts and other relevant Member State authorities, third country authorities or international organisations;
- communication and advocacy activities including support tools;
- development, improvement, maintenance, acquisition and modernisation of digital tools, big data and artificial intelligence solutions, forensic IT, and related equipment and services.

#### Implementation

Actions will be implemented by DG COMP by signing direct contracts, specific contracts under existing or new multi-annual framework contracts or administrative arrangements with JRC.

#### Additional information

The actions will specifically focus on:

- ensuring effective and up-to-date enforcement of EU competition policy and policy actions:
- enhancing cooperation and partnerships with public administrations in the EU and contributing to a stronger global cooperation and partnerships with third country authorities;
- raising awareness of EU competition policy.

Expected results: Ensure effective, efficient, up-to-date enforcement and rules/guidance, support major objectives of competition policy and policy actions, facilitate cooperation in-and outside EU and increase awareness of EU competition rules among various stakeholders.

Indicative implementation timetable and payment timetable: The launch of new procedures will be spread over the year 2022.

Qualitative and quantitative result indicators for the action:

- estimate of customer benefits resulting from cartel prohibition decisions;
- estimate of customer benefits resulting from merger interventions;
- total State aid expenditure for environmental protection, renewables and energy savings as a percentage of total State aid in the EU;

- total State aid expenditure for broadband as a percentage of total State aid in the EU;
- total State aid expenditure falling under the General Block Exemption Regulation as a percentage of total State aid in the EU;
- error rate of the compliance check for State aid transparency measures;
- degree of implementation of the digital solutions modernisation plan: case management solutions, exchanges with external stakeholders and data analytics/artificial intelligence.

## 2.5.3. *Other actions or expenditure*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for other expenditure under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 406 000.

## Description

## Membership contributions

Financial contribution to the International Competition Network. The Commission is a member of the network, which is a network of established and newer competition agencies with the common aim of addressing practical antitrust and merger enforcement and policy issues. By enhancing convergence and cooperation, the ICN promotes more efficient and effective antitrust enforcement worldwide for the benefit of consumers and businesses. Estimated budget: EUR 6 000

 Reimbursements to experts in accordance with Commission Decision C(2007)5858

The Commission and the competent Member State authorities as well as other advisors form together networks, developing and applying the Community competition rules in close cooperation. Estimated budget: EUR 400 000

## 2.6. Budget line 03.020106 Implementation and development of the internal market for financial services

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities fostering the development of the Single Market for financial services. The actions to be financed are managed by DG FISMA and the budget breakdown for year 2022 as follows:

- for procurements (implemented under direct management) (2.6.1): EUR 5 134 285
- for other actions (2.6.2): EUR 350 000

#### 2.6.1. Procurements

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts for Implementation and development of the Single Market for financial services in 2022 is EUR 5 134 285.

2.6.1.1. Implementation and development of the internal market for financial services

In total, around 15 to 30 direct contracts shall be awarded and around 25 to 40 specific

contracts shall be signed under existing framework contracts. Most of the procurement procedures may be launched during the 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarter of 2022. The activities covered could include:

- Studies, surveys and evaluations in line with DG FISMA priorities and supporting policy making:
- Conformity assessments of national measures transposing directives / assessment of the implementation of regulations (including background analyses and studies);
- Development, maintenance and hosting of local administrative and policy supporting information technology (IT) systems, purchase of licenses, external IT assessments/analyses or contributions for the use of (corporate) IT systems if relevant (e.g AGM, eProcurement, SUMMA, etc.);
- Subscription to financial markets databases to timely and reliably assess market changes;
- Implementation of DG FISMA communication strategy (e.g. publications, social media campaigns, video production, Eurobarometer surveys, awareness-raising activities, workshops, conferences, meetings, etc.)
- Other activities required to achieve the objective set out in Article 3(2), point (a), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690.

#### **Implementation**

The activities shall be implemented either directly by DG FISMA (direct management) or by co-delegation or cross-sub delegation with DIGIT, DG BUDG, PMO, OLAF or other Directorates-General or Commission services as appropriate.

#### 2.6.2. *Administrative arrangements and other expenditure*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for administrative arrangements and other expenditure under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 350 000.

2.6.2.1. Contributions paid by the Union as subscriptions to bodies of which it is a member.

#### Amount

EUR 150 000

## Description

Contributions paid by the Union as subscriptions to bodies of which it is a member and on which the Commission is represented by DG FISMA such as:

- The Commission's annual membership fee for participation in the International Organisation of Securities Commission (IOSCO), which is an association of securities regulatory organisations and the recognised body for securities' standard setting (IOSCO membership regulates more than 90% of the world's securities markets). Participation in IOSCO is vital to influence the international standard setting in the field of securities

markets.

- The annual membership contribution to the International Financial Consumer Protection Network, which promotes and develops international standards in relation to financial consumer protection and on regulatory and supervisory matters related to financial market conduct, with an emphasis on banking and credit issues.
- The annual contribution to the International Association for Insurance Supervisorswhich is the international body that sets international standards on insurance supervision.

## 2.6.2.2. Administrative Arrangements with JRC

#### Amount

EUR 200 000

#### Description

One or more Administrative Arrangements with JRC for the provision of specialist technical assistance in the field of financial services.

## 2.7. Budget line 03.020107 Market Surveillance

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities implementing measures in the field of product market surveillance. The actions to be financed are managed by DG GROW and the budget breakdown for year 2022 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.7.1): EUR 2000000
- for procurements (implemented under direct management) (1.7.2): EUR 11361 621
- for other actions, in particular administrative arrangements (1.2.7.3): EUR 1203000

#### 2.7.1. *Grants*

2.7.1.1. Establishment and functioning of Union testing facilities, the development of instruments of international cooperation and technical or scientific expertise

#### Amount

EUR 2 000 000

Type of applicants targeted by the calls for proposals

The targeted beneficiaries are market surveillance authorities, organisations representing the market surveillance authorities and Union testing facilities referred to in Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020.

Description of the activities to be funded

The objective is to support the establishment and functioning of Union testing facilities referred to in Article 21, the development of instruments of international cooperation referred

to in Article 35 and the making available to the Commission of technical or scientific expertise for the purpose of assisting the Commission in its implementation of market surveillance administrative cooperation.

The objective of the proposed activities is to support the functioning of the EU Product Compliance Network, to strengthen the operational market surveillance capacities of authorities of Member States and/or EFTA countries which are members of the EEA and to address the needs identified in the national market surveillance strategies. The proposed activities will take place in the context of Articles 31 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and in accordance with the financing provisions referred to in Article 36 of that Regulation, and will address more specifically the establishment and functioning of Union testing facilities.

Indicative timetable and maximum co-financing rate

Publication of the call: Q1 2022, time for the award: Q2 2022.

Maximum co-financing rate: 85%

#### Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG GROW

## 2.7.2. Procurement

2.7.2.1. Market Surveillance: Administrative and technical secretariats for Administrative cooperation groups (ADCOs)

General description of the contracts envisaged

An administrative secretariat has been set up necessary for the organisation and coordination of meetings of the Administrative cooperation groups (ADCOs) in the area of market surveillance has been set up. Technical secretariats of ADCOs will be set up with the objective to enable close co-operation between Market Surveillance Authorities across the Union to ensure, as a result, consistent technical application of various Directives on goods. Those secretariats must be financed each year to allow ensuring in particular that the implementation of Union directives does not create obstacles to the good functioning of the internal market. In particular, procurement involving contracting entities from different Member States<sup>5</sup> may be impacted negatively by differing national rules transposing Union directives. Administrative and technical secretariats are necessary for the coordination groups of the ADCOs in the area of market surveillance.

### Implementation

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Article 39 of Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC, OJ L 94 of 28.3.2014, p. 65, and Article 57 of Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC, OJ L 94 of 28.3.2014, p. 243.

This action will be implemented by DG GROW

#### 2.7.2.2. IT related activity

General description of the contracts envisaged

IT development, maintenance, services and work on databases and IT systems, including ICSMS. Management of databases on notification procedures (e.g. NANDO). Rationalisation of the existing systems in order to make them more interoperable and efficient and move towards a one-stop shop.

## Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and codelegation to another Directorate General, in particular DIGIT

## 2.7.2.3. Support to joint enforcement actions

General description of the contracts envisaged

The objective of the proposed activities is to enhance cooperation and coordination among Member States and/or European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) with regard to market surveillance activities and to contribute to the strengthening of operational market surveillance capacities of authorities of Member States and/or EFTA countries which are members of the EEA. In particular, the proposed activities should be based on and take into account the expertise of the relevant Administrative cooperation groups. It includes the performance of preliminary or ancillary work in connection with market surveillance activities related to the application of Union harmonisation legislation, such as studies, programmes, evaluations, guidelines, comparative analyses, mutual joint visits and visit programmes, peer reviews, exchange of personnel, research work, training activities, laboratory work, proficiency testing, inter-laboratory tests and conformity assessment work. It could also cover activities carried out under programmes providing technical assistance, cooperation with third countries and the promotion and enhancement of Union market surveillance policies and systems amongst interested parties at Union and international level.

The activities should take place in the context of Articles 31 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council and the financing provisions referred to in Article 36 of that Regulation, and will address more specifically joint actions and capacity building actions.

## Implementation

This action will be implemented by EISMEA

2.7.2.4. Union market surveillance campaigns and associated activities, including resources and equipment, IT tools and training – EU Product Compliance Network

General description of the contracts envisaged

The objective of the proposed activities is to strengthen the operational market surveillance capacities of authorities of Member States and/or EFTA countries which are members of the EEA and to address the needs identified in the national market surveillance strategies. The proposed activities will take place in the context of Articles 31 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and in accordance with the financing provisions referred to in Article 36 of that Regulation, and will address more specifically market surveillance campaigns and associated activities, including resources and equipment, IT tools and training.

#### Implementation

This action will be implemented by EISMEA or by GROW, depending on the type of procedure to be followed as different contracts (open procedures) or specific contracts (use of IT framework contracts) could be signed.

#### 2.7.2.5. Electronic interfaces

General description of the contracts envisaged

Electronic interfaces between the national IT systems of Member States and ICSMS, enabling the exchange of data between the information and communication system as referred to in Article 34 and the national market surveillance systems (Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products and amending Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations (EC) No 765/2008 and (EU) No 305/2011)

#### **Implementation**

This action will be implemented by DG GROW

2.7.2.6. Awareness raising campaigns and communication activities

## General description

Communication campaigns aimed at raising the awareness of stakeholders and consumers, in the context of product compliance and product safety. Organisation of conferences and workshops

Implementation

This action will be implemented by DG GROW through cross sub-delegation and codelegation to other DG (SCIC,...)

2.7.3. Administrative arrangements and other expenditure

2.7.3.1. Administrative arrangement with JRC

#### Amount

EUR 543.000

Description

This administrative arrangement will fund JRC technical support to product market surveillance activities, including EU testing capacity, market surveillance indicators and peer reviews.

# Indicative timetable for implementation

Q1 2022

2.7.3.2. Support to Customs Union – Cooperation market surveillance/customs, including Single Window interface

#### Amount

EUR 660 000

# Description

This administrative arrangement will fund the Support to Customs Union, and more specifically the cooperation between Market Surveillance Authorities and Customs Authorities, including the Single Window interface.

Internal administrative arrangement (MoU) signed by DG GROW and DG TAXUD on the cooperation framework between both DGs for the interface between the "Information and communication system for market surveillance (ICSMS)" and national customs systems via the "European Union Customs Single Window for Certificates exchanges system (EU CSW-CERTEX). The initiative requires complex changes and new functionalities to be added to ICSMS and EU CSW-CERTEX, and collaboration on the design and development of this important data exchange mechanism between the two. This is a first step in the bilateral cooperation for the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020.

Financial transfers are foreseen from DG GROW to DG TAXUD for the period 2021-2025, followed by maintenance fees thereafter.

# 3. STANDARDISATION

This budget contains the appropriations for activities increasing the efficiency of the single market through standardisation.

The actions to be financed are managed by DG GROW and DG FISMA. The appropriations come under the budget headings:

03.020301 European standardisation: EUR 21 676 000.

03.020302 International financial reporting and accounting standards: EUR 8 662 095

Under these budget lines, the global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 1 150 000 the global budgetary envelope reserved for grants is EUR28 838 095, and the global budgetary envelope reserved for other actions (in particular administrative arrangements) is EUR 350 000.

# 3.1. Budget line 03.020301 European standardisation

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities managed by DG GROW and the budget breakdown for year 2022 as follows:

- for grants (3.1.1): EUR 20 176 000
- for procurements (3.1.2): EUR 1 150 000
- for other actions, in particular administrative arrangements (3.1.3): 350 000

#### 3.1.1. *Grants*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR  $20\,176\,000$ .

3.1.1.1. Support to standardisation activities performed by CEN, Cenelec and ETSI, by national standardisation bodies jointly undertaken with the European standardisation organisations and by other bodies in cooperation with the European standardisation organisations

#### Amount

EUR 15 378 000

Organisations targeted by the direct award

The European standardisation organisations as mentioned in Article 10(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 and listed in annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012:

- 1. European Committee for Standardisation (CEN);
- 2. European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation (Cenelec);
- 3. European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation

Operating grant to the CEN, under framework partnership agreement to carry out the activities of its central secretariat, including policy development, the coordination of

standardisation activities, the processing of technical work and the provision of information to interested parties referred to in Article 15(1), point (d), of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.<sup>6</sup> For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission.

Action grants to the CEN, if necessary, under framework partnership agreement, to carry out the development and revision of European standards or deliverables and the associated activities referred to in Article 15(1), points (a),(c),(e),(f) and (g) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012. For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission. This will assure business continuity and will not stop the standadisation work in support of Union policies considering that the incurred costs could be included in the future proposals for action grants.

[1] as specified in Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(i),

Operating grant to the Cenelec, under framework partnership agreement, to carry out the activities of its central secretariat, including policy development, the coordination of standardisation activities, the processing of technical work and the provision of information to interested parties as referred to in Article 15(1) point (d), of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.8 For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission.

Action grants to the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation (Cenelec), if necessary, under framework partnership agreement to carry out the development and revision of European standards or deliverables and the associated activities referred to in Article 15(1), points (a),(c),(e),(f) and (g) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.9 For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission. This will assure business continuity and will not stop the standadisation work in support of EU policies considering that the incurred costs could be included in the future proposals for action grants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> as specified in Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(i),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> as specified in Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(i),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> as specified in Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(i),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> as specified in Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(i),

as specified in Article 10(c) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(c)(i),

Operating grant to ETSI under framework partnership agreement to carry out the activities of its central secretariat, including policy development, the coordination of standardisation activities, the processing of technical work and the provision of information to interested parties as referred to in Article 15(1), point (d), of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.10 For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission.

Action grants to the ETSI if necessary under framework partnership agreement to carry out the development and revision of European standards or deliverables and the associated activities referred to in Article 15(1), points (a),(c),(e),(f) and (g) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012. For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission. This will assure business continuity and will not stop the standadisation work in support of Union policies considering that the incurred costs could be included in the future proposals for action grants.

Action grants to the national standardisation bodies to carry out the development and revision of European standards or deliverables and the associated activities referred to in Article 15(1), points (a),(c),(e),(f) and (g) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 which they jointly undertake with the European standardisation organisations. For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission. This will assure business continuity and will not stop the standadisation work in support of Union policies considering that the incurred costs could be included in the future proposals for action grants.

Action grants to the bodies identified by a basic act, within the meaning of Article 49 of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002, to carry out, in collaboration with the European standardisation organisations the activities referred to in Article 15(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012. For proposals under this topic, started in 2022, exceptionally cost incurred as from 1 January 2022 are eligible and may be declared even if the related activities have been implemented prior to proposal submission. This will assure business continuity and will not stop the standadisation work in support of Union policies considering that the incurred costs could be included in the future proposals for action grants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> as specified in Article 10(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(i),

Indicative timetable and maximum co-financing rate

Publication of the call: Q1 2022, time for the direct award: Q1 2022

Maximum co-financing rate: 95%

# Implementation

DG GROW for operating grants and EISMEA for action grants

3.1.1.2. Support to organisations representing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and societal stakeholders in standardisation activities

#### Amount

EUR 4798000

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The European organisations listed in annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 and designated beneficiaries provided in Article 10 (c) of the Regulation (EU) 2021/690 which have been selected following a call for proposals to the European stakeholder organisations meeting the criteria set out in Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16:

- 1. The European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (ANEC) representing consumer interests in European standardisation activities;
- 2. The European Environmental Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS) representing environmental interests in European standardisation activities;
- 3. The European Trade Union Confederation (CES ETUC) representing social interests in European standardisation activities,

The European organisation(s) representing SMEs in European standardisation activities which will be selected following a call for proposals for European stakeholder organisations meeting the criteria set out in Article 1 of the Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16.

Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grant(s) directly awarded under framework partnership(s) agreements. FPA to be signed during 2021 with organisations representing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Operating and action grants to the European stakeholder organisations meeting the criteria set out in Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 under framework partnership agreements to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16 of that Regulation.

Operating grant to the European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (ANEC) representing consumer interests in European standardisation activities under framework partnership agreements to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.

Operating grant to the European Environmental Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS) representing environmental interests in European standardisation activities under framework partnership agreements to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.

Action grants to the European Environmental Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS) representing environmental interests in European standardisation activities under framework partnership agreements to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.

Operating grant to the European Trade Union Confederation (CES ETUC) representing social interests in European standardisation activities under framework partnership agreements to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.

Operating grant to the European organisation(s) representing SMEs in European standardisation activities which will be selected following a call for proposals for a European stakeholder organisations meeting the criteria set out in Article 1 of Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 and after framework partnership agreement to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16.

Action grants to the European organisation(s) representing SMEs in European standardisation activities which will be selected following a call for proposals for a European stakeholder organisations meeting the criteria set out in Article 1 of Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 and after framework partnership agreement to carry out the activities referred to in Article 16.

Indicative timetable and maximum co-financing rate

Time for the direct award: Q1 2022 Maximum co-financing rate: 95%

# Implementation

**EISMEA** 

#### 3.1.2. Procurement

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement in 2022 under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 1 150 000.

# 3.1.2.1. IT projects related to standardisation

General description of the contracts envisaged

Information Technology: management of the standardisation mandates and publication of references of harmonised standards including: SIGNIFERI, HAS and CEN/CENELEC Standards database, CESIP.

### Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General, in particular DIGIT.

#### Additional information

By principle of good administrative practice implementation of the Article 10(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 the Commission keeps the public informed at all stages of a harmonised standard from the standardisation request up to the expiration of its legal effect on Union legislation.

# 3.1.2.2. IT related activities for Standardisation projects and Information Systems

General description of the contracts envisaged

System Administration and Database management activities, Security, Operation and maintenance of Information systems, Application support, Project Management, Data Management for policy, Technical and corrective Maintenance for Administrative Information Systems, Application Support (Basic), LSA services, Supporting services for the management of Information Systems for Standardisation (DG GROW R3). This includes R3 supporting services guaranteeing the coherence and efficient management of the activities deployed in the unit (Application Support, Enterprise Project Management Office, Architecture Office, Program & project management support, Business Process Modelling, Security management, DEVOPS, System Administration, technical evolutions, technical migrations, coordination with DIGIT, hardware & software and general support) as well as tasks for the inception phase of projects (Proof of Concept, Problem Statement, Business case). All tasks for the maintenance and development of Information Systems are also covered. Most of those activities are undertaken by external personnel hired mainly through DIGIT or other DG's Framework Contracts

#### Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General, in particular DIGIT.

#### Additional information

By principle of good administrative practice implementation of the Article 10(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012, the Commission keeps the public informed at all stages of a harmonised standard from the standardisation request up to the expiration of its legal effect on Union legislation.

#### 3.1.2.3. Standardisation consultant

## General description of the contracts envisaged

Technical consultancy contract, in order to assist the work related to web-publishing of standards related information, the re-design of the site structure and the review of the standardisation data-model at the basis of a re-design of the ICT tools architecture supporting standardisation activities to verify the quality, and conformity to the corresponding Union legislation and policies, of European standards or European standardisation deliverables

## Implementation

DG GROW and through cross sub-delegation and co-delegation to another Directorate General, in particular DIGIT.

# Additional information required by the basic act for the work programme]

In accordance with the principle of good administrative practice in the implementation of the Article 10(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012, the Commission keeps the public informed at all stages of a harmonised standard from the standardisation request up to the expiration of its legal effect on an EU legislation.

# 3.1.2.4. Communication/promotion of European standardisation system

# General description of the contracts envisaged

Communication services. Communication on standardisation strategy, evaluation of European Standardisation System, hosting and services for Sectorial Information Systems in DIGIT Data Center, promotion of evaluation studies throughout events, conferences, meetings.

#### **Implementation**

DG GROW will implement this action.

# Additional information

In accordance with the principle of good administration in implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012, the Commission keeps the stakeholders informed about all changes and events that may affect the European standardisation system.

# 3.1.3. *Administrative arrangements and other expenditure*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for administrative arrangements under this work programme under this budget line is EUR  $350\,000$  .

# 3.1.3.1. Empirical support for the development of Eurocodes

#### Amount

EUR 350 000

### Description

Support and steer the development of a set of standards for structural design which will result in a common approach for safe building and civil engineering works. This will allow for the exchange of experience and the possibilities for civil engineers to offer their services easier within the Union. This action comes under the measures taken by the Commission to eliminate barriers for services provided by civil engineers (Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council) and partially to trade pursuant to Article 3 of Directive 2015/1535.

Indicative timetable for implementation

Q3 2022

# 3.2. Budget line 03.020302 International financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards

This chapter contains the appropriations for activities managed by DG FISMA and the global budgetary envelope reserved for grants for International financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards in 2022 under this work programme under this budget line is EUR 8 662 095

3.2.1. Grants to be awarded for 'International financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards'

## Amount

EUR 8 662 095

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

In accordance with the provisions of Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation and as specified in Article 10(1), point (d), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation, the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) and the Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB) may be awarded grants under the Programme without a call for proposals for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(ii).

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation

A financial contribution to the work programme for 2022 of the **International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation** may be made through the award of an operating grant within the meaning of Article 180(2), point (b), of the Financial Regulation.

In this regard, the Foundation pursues objectives which form part of, and support, Union

policy as a well-functioning common financial reporting framework that is essential for the internal market, the effective functioning of capital markets and the realisation of the integrated market for financial services in the context of the Capital Markets Union.

The IFRS developed by the Foundation's International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) are incorporated into Union law for use by companies with securities listed on a regulated market in the Union so long as they satisfy the criteria in Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 including that accounts give a 'true and fair view' and that they are conducive to the European public good. The Union therefore has a direct interest in ensuring that the processes through which IFRS are developed and approved result in high quality standards that are consistent with the requirements of the internal market and with public interests.

The IFRS Foundation would be awarded an operating grant of up to an indicative maximum amount of EUR 3 850 095 to co-finance up to 20% of the eligible costs of the implementation of tits work programme for 2022 which could include, amongst others, such activities as:

- the IASB closely monitoring and improving its standard-setting process;
- consultation to define international standard-setting priorities and develop the IASB's project work plan;
- consultation on and conduct of the IASB's research programme;
- implementation of the IASB's standard setting programme and activities and its maintenance programme (which supports implementation and consistent application to ensure the IFRS remain relevant and to promote better communication in financial reporting).

A financial contribution to the work programme for 2022 of the **European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG)** may be made through the award of an operating grant within the meaning of Article 180(2), point (b) of the Financial Regulation.

In this respect, EFRAG pursues objectives which form part of, and support, Union policy as its work makes a vital contribution to a well-functioning common financial reporting framework. In particular, EFRAG assesses whether international financial reporting standards (IFRS) comply with the requirements of Union law and policy. It also provides technical advice to the Commission on the endorsement of IFRS.

The Union also has a direct and specific interest in encouraging the development and sharing of best practices in corporate reporting, not least given the potential of improved non-financial reporting to contribute to the transition to a more sustainable and socially responsible economy.

In that light, more recently EFRAG has established a corporate reporting laboratory to promote innovation and the development of best practices in corporate reporting including non-financial reporting.

In addition, as non-financial reporting (also referred to as sustainability reporting) is increasingly important to judging the performance and prospects of companies, particularly as the European and global economies adjust and adapt to climate change and sustainability

requirements, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) on April 2021<sup>11</sup>, which envisages the development of draft EU sustainability reporting standards by EFRAG.

As such, the work of EFRAG in 2022 will directly contribute to the achievement of the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (c)(ii), of *Regulation (EU) 2021/690* of supporting the development of high-quality international financial and non-financial reporting standards, facilitating their integration into the Union law, and promoting the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting.

EFRAG would be awarded an operating grant of up to an indicative maximum amount of EUR 4 462 000 to co-finance up to 60% of the eligible costs of implementing its work programme for 2022 covering activities, amongst others, in such areas as:

- Research work and activities contributing to the IASB's standard setting activities;
- Provision of advice on the endorsement of International Financial Reporting Standards;
- Elaboration of draft EU sustainability reporting standards as envisaged in the proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) published on 21 April 2021.

It could also support other activities undertaken by EFRAG such as: provision of advice to the Commission on corporate and financial and non-financial reporting matters; technical analyses and assessments; outreach activities; field-testing; stakeholder meetings and other events; identification and dissemination of good and innovative reporting practices; and increasing the visibility of EFRAG to a wider public.

A financial contribution to the work programme for 2022 of the **Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB)** may be made through the award of an operating grant within the meaning of Article 180(2), point (b), of the Financial Regulation.

In this respect, the PIOB pursues objectives which form part of, and support, Union policy. In particular, it makes a vital contribution to ensuring that the public interest is appropriately taken into account in the setting of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) that are used by auditors throughout the world and which are mandated for use by most Member States. It also ensures that public interest are taken into account in the setting of international ethics standards for professional accountants, including auditor independence requirements.

It does so by overseeing the whole process applied by the two standard-setting boards:

- the International Audit and Assurance Standards Board (IIAASB) and
- the International Ethics Board for Accountants (IESBA).

The PIOB also oversees the work of the International Federation of Accountants' (IFAC) Nominating Committee which is responsible for selecting members to serve on the independent standard-setting boards.

The PIOB would be awarded an operating grant of up to an indicative maximum amount of

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2013/34/EU, Directive 2004/109/EC, Directive 2006/43/EC and Regulation (EU) No 537/2014, as regards corporate sustainability reporting, COM/2021/189 final.

EUR 350 000 to co-finance up to 30% of the eligible costs of implementing its work programme for 2022, thereby supporting the continued independent oversight of the activities of the global audit standard-setting process.

To promote such independence, in accordance with Article 12(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690, if funding of the PIOB by IFAC in 2022 reaches more than two-thirds of the total annual funding the contribution of the Union to the PIOB for 2022 shall be limited to a maximum of EUR 300 000.

# Implementation

The actions will be implemented by DG FISMA

#### 4. CONSUMERS

The global budget contains the appropriations for activities managed by DG FISMA on "The participation of end users in financial services policy making".

# 4.1. Budget line 03.020402 The participation of end users in financial services policy making

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 1 497 691

These amounts include appropriations arising from the participation of EEA EFTA States to the programme and are therefore subject to the agreement on their participation.

4.1.1. Grants to be awarded for 'The participation of end users in financial services policy making'

#### Amount

EUR 1 497 691

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

In accordance with the provisions of Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation and as specified in Article 10(1), point (f), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690, Finance Watch and 'Better Finance' may be awarded grants under the Programme without a call for proposals for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2), point (d)(ii).

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant(s) awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195(d) of the Financial Regulation

Subject to its compliance with the criteria established in Article 10(1), (f)(i) and (ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 an action grant within the meaning of Article 180(2), point (a), of the Financial Regulation may be provided to Finance Watch to undertake eligible activities under Article 8(2), points (a), (b) and (d) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 to pursue the objectives set out in Article (2)(d)(ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690.

The grant co-financing rate would be up to 60% of eligible costs.

So that the financial services policymaking process is adequately informed of the views, opinions and interests of consumers and other end-users of financial services, a grant would include co-financing for Finance Watch

- to respond to all relevant public consultations launched by the Commission on financial services policy and
- to provide necessary information, insight and opinions to inform studies, analyses, assessments and evaluations undertaken or outsourced by Commission services in relation to financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union.

Other grant co-financed activities of Finance Watch (with the support of its members) in pursuit of the objectives identified in Article 3(2), point (d)(ii), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 would mainly relate to the areas of retail financial services, sustainable finance and financial stability, although tangible actions and projects in other related areas within the financial services domain, including debt-advice and financial inclusion could be addressed where appropriate.

An application for a grant would be evaluated on the basis of the following award criteria:

- (i) relevance of the proposed actions (types of activities, topics covered timetable) to achieve the objectives provided for in Article 3(2), point (d)(ii), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690;
- (ii) quality of the proposed actions;
- (iii) impact, including economic, social and environmental impact;
- (iv) cost-efficiency and demonstration that the estimated budget of the action is commensurate with the results to be achieved.

Subject to its compliance with the criteria established in Article 10(1), points (f)(i) and (ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 an action grant within the meaning of Article 180(2), point (a), of the Financial Regulation may be provided to Better Finance to undertake eligible activities under Article 8(2), points (a), (b) and (d), to pursue activities the objectives set out in Article (2), point (d)(ii), of *Regulation (EU)* 2021/690.

The grant co-financing rate would be up to 60% of eligible costs

So that the financial services policymaking process is adequately informed of the views, opinions and interests of consumers and other end-users of financial services, a grant would include co-financing for Better Finance

- to respond to all relevant public consultations launched by the Commission on financial services policy and
- to provide necessary information, insight and opinions to inform studies, analyses, assessments and evaluations undertaken or outsourced by Commission services in relation to financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union.

Other grant co-financed activities of Better Finance (with the support of its members) in pursuit of the objectives identified in Article 3(2), point (d)(ii), of Regulation (EU) 2021/690 would mainly relate to the needs of small investors and individual shareholders, such as Better Finance's three flagship research projects ("Real returns of Long term and Pension

Savings", "RoboAdvice" and the series "#BFFundResearch").

An application for a grant would be evaluated on the basis of the following award criteria:

- i) relevance of the proposed actions (types of activities, topics covered timetable) to achieve the objectives provided for Article 3(2)(d)(ii) of Regulation (EU) 2021/690;
- ii) quality of the proposed actions;
- iii) impact, including economic, social and environmental impact;
- iv) cost-efficiency and demonstration that the estimated budget of the action is commensurate with the results to be achieved.

# Implementation

The actions will be implemented by DG FISMA

#### Timetable

Indicative timing of grant award decision: Q1 2022

Indicative implementation period: 2022