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SEGRETARJAT PARLAMENTARI GHALL-FONDI

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MALTA

MINISTRY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND EQUALITY

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT FOR EU FUNDS AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Id-Divizioni ghall-Fondi u Programmi

Funds and Programmes Division

MEMO

To: Project Leaders

From: Head of Responsible Authority

Date: 12th July 2017

Subject: De-commitment of Funds following 15th October 2017 for the Asylum Migration and Integration

Fund (re-issue).

As you have been informed, the new asylum and security National Programmes are subjected to annual commitment targets¹, Consequently if funds are not spent in line with the disbursement table which is present in the National Programmes, the respective funds can be potentially lost.

The first de-commitment process will materialise on the 15th of February 2018, if the amount of €3,387,872.63 (€ 2,540,940.47 EU share and €846,932.16 MT share) is not paid and processed completely through MSIS by the 15th of October 2017.

In view of this, we strongly encourage you to assess mechanisms in order to hasten the tendering processes and increase the disbursement allocations you have estimated for 2017. This would enable you to contribute as much as possible to the amounts identified above as well as ensuring that the funds allocated to your projects remain available. This urgent action needs to be enforced not only on projects which have been approved by the Project Selection Committee but also for those projects under evaluation or are being planned to be submitted.

A general concerted effort is now crucial in order to keep the funds for the implementation of Malta's projects. A meeting with each beneficiary organisation will be held in due course so that updates on time-frames of contracting and disbursements until the 15th October 2017 can be presented. Any delays which may jeopardise the funds need to be indicated during the meeting, together with mitigating measures to address the related challenges.. The RA is also open to discuss any other activities which are in line with the objectives of the Funds which could be potentially financed.

Please treat this as urgent, since loss of funds will mean the inability to finance in full your projects and hence the Ministries will need to fork out their funds to cover the costs. I thank you for your cooperation.

¹ Article 50 of the Horizontal Regulation 514/2014

Raphael Scerri Head of the Responsible Authority Funds and Programmes Division