Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006

# **PART FOUR**

# GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE FUNDS AND THE EMFF

#### TITLE I

# MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

# CHAPTER I

# Management and control systems

# Article 122

## **Responsibilities of Member States**

- 1 Member States shall ensure that management and control systems for operational programmes are set up in accordance with Articles 72, 73 and 74.
- Member States shall prevent, detect and correct irregularities and shall recover amounts unduly paid, together with any interest on late payments. [XIThey shall notify the Commission of irregularities that exceed EUR 10 000 in contribution from any of the Funds or the EMFF, and] shall keep it informed of significant progress in related administrative and legal proceedings.

The Member States shall not notify the Commission of irregularities in relation to the following:

- a cases where the irregularity consists solely of the failure to execute, in whole or in part, an operation included in the co-financed operational programme owing to the bankruptcy of the beneficiary;
- b cases brought to the attention of the managing authority or certifying authority by the beneficiary voluntarily and before detection by either authority, whether before or after the payment of the public contribution;
- [X1c cases which are detected and corrected by the managing authority or certifying authority before inclusion of the expenditure concerned in a payment application submitted to the Commission.]

In all other cases, in particular those preceding a bankruptcy or in cases of suspected fraud, the detected irregularities and the associated preventive and corrective measures shall be reported to the Commission.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in

[FIWhen amounts unduly paid to a beneficiary for an operation cannot be recovered and this is as a result of fault or negligence on the part of a Member State, that Member State shall be responsible for reimbursing the amounts concerned to the budget of the Union. Member States may decide not to recover an amount unduly paid if the amount to be recovered from the beneficiary, not including interest, does not exceed EUR 250 in contribution from the Funds to an operation in an accounting year.]

the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 149 laying down additional detailed rules on the criteria for determining the cases of irregularity to be reported, the data to be provided and on the conditions and procedures to be applied to determine whether amounts which are irrecoverable shall be reimbursed by Member States.

The Commission shall adopt implementing acts setting out the frequency of the reporting of irregularities and the reporting format to be used. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 150(2).

3 Member States shall ensure that no later than 31 December 2015, all exchanges of information between beneficiaries and a managing authority, a certifying authority, an audit authority and intermediate bodies can be carried out by means of electronic data exchange systems.

The systems referred to in the first subparagraph shall facilitate interoperability with national and Union frameworks and allow for the beneficiaries to submit all information referred to in the first subparagraph only once.

The Commission shall adopt implementing acts laying down detailed rules concerning the exchanges of information under this paragraph. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 150(3).

4 Paragraph 3 shall not apply to the EMFF.

#### **Editorial Information**

X1 Substituted by Corrigendum to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (Official Journal of the European Union L 347 of 20 December 2013).

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

#### CHAPTER II

# Management and control authorities

#### Article 123

# **Designation of authorities**

- 1 Each Member State shall designate, for each operational programme, a national, regional or local public authority or body or a private body as managing authority. The same managing authority may be designated for more than one operational programme.
- The Member State shall designate, for each operational programme, a national, regional or local public authority or body as a certifying authority, without prejudice to paragraph 3. The same certifying authority may be designated for more than one operational programme.
- 3 The Member State may designate for an operational programme a managing authority, which is a public authority or body, to carry out, in addition, the functions of the certifying authority.
- 4 The Member State shall designate, for each operational programme, a national, regional or local public authority or body, functionally independent from the managing authority and the certifying authority, as audit authority. The same audit authority may be designated for more than one operational programme.
- [F15] In the case of the Funds and in the case of the EMFF, provided that the principle of separation of functions is respected, the managing authority, the certifying authority, where applicable, and the audit authority may be part of the same public authority or body.]

Where the total amount of support from the Funds to an operational programme exceeds EUR 250 000 000 or from the EMFF exceeds EUR 100 000 000, the audit authority may be part of the same public authority or body as the managing authority either if, pursuant to the applicable provisions for the previous programming period, the Commission has informed the Member State prior to the date of adoption of the operational programme concerned of its conclusion that it can rely principally on its audit opinion, or if the Commission is satisfied on the basis of the experience of the previous programming period that the institutional organisation and accountability of the audit authority provide adequate guarantees of its functional independence and reliability.

- The Member State may designate one or more intermediate bodies to carry out certain tasks of the managing or the certifying authority under the responsibility of that authority. The relevant arrangements between the managing authority or certifying authority and the intermediate bodies shall be formally recorded in writing.
- The Member State or the managing authority may entrust the management of part of an operational programme to an intermediate body by way of an agreement in writing between the intermediate body and the Member State or managing authority (a 'global grant'). The intermediate body shall provide guarantees of its solvency and competence in the domain concerned, as well as of its administrative and financial management capacity.
- 8 The Member State may, at its own initiative, designate a coordinating body whose responsibility shall be to liaise with and provide information to the Commission, to coordinate activities of the other relevant designated bodies and to promote the harmonised application of applicable law.

9 The Member State shall lay down in writing rules governing its relationship with the managing authorities, certifying authorities and audit authorities, the relations between such authorities, and the relationship of such authorities with the Commission.

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

#### Article 124

# Procedure for the designation of the managing authority and the certifying authority

- 1 The Member State shall notify the Commission of the date and form of the designations, which shall be carried out at an appropriate level, of the managing authority and, where appropriate, of the certifying authority prior to the submission of the first application for interim payment to the Commission.
- The designations referred to in paragraph 1 shall be based on a report and an opinion of an independent audit body that assesses the fulfilment by the authorities of the criteria relating to the internal control environment, risk management, management and control activities, and monitoring set out in Annex XIII. The independent audit body shall be the audit authority, or another public or private law body with the necessary audit capacity, which is independent of the managing authority and, where applicable, of the certifying authority, and which shall carry out its work taking account of internationally accepted audit standards. Where the independent audit body concludes that the part of the management and control system, concerning the managing authority or the certifying authority, is essentially the same as for the previous programming period, and that there is evidence, on the basis of audit work done in accordance with the relevant provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 and Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006<sup>(1)</sup>, of their effective functioning during that period, it may conclude that the relevant criteria are fulfilled without carrying out additional audit work.
- Where the total amount of support from the Funds to an operational programme exceeds EUR 250 000 000 or from the EMFF exceeds EUR 100 000 000, the Commission may request, within one month of notification of the designations referred to in paragraph 1, the report and the opinion of the independent audit body referred to in paragraph 2 and the description of the functions and procedures in place for the managing authority or, where appropriate, the certifying authority. The Commission shall decide whether to request those documents on the basis of its risk assessment, taking into account information on significant changes in the functions and procedures of the managing authority or, where appropriate, the certifying authority compared to those in place for the previous programming period, and relevant evidence of their effective functioning.

The Commission may make observations within two months of receipt of the documents referred to in the first subparagraph. Without prejudice to Article 83, the examination of those documents shall not interrupt the treatment of applications for interim payments.

Where the total amount of support from the Funds to an operational programme exceeds EUR 250 000 000 or from the EMFF exceeds EUR 100 000 000 and there are significant changes in the functions and procedures of the managing authority or, where appropriate, of

the certifying authority compared to those in place for the previous programming period, the Member State may, at its own initiative, submit to the Commission, within two months of the notification of the designations referred to in paragraph 1, the documents referred to in paragraph 3. The Commission shall make observations on those documents within three months of their receipt.

Where existing audit and control results show that the designated authority no longer fulfils the criteria referred to in paragraph 2, the Member State shall, at an appropriate level, fix, according to the severity of the problem, a period of probation, during which the necessary remedial action shall be taken.

Where the designated authority fails to implement the required remedial action within the period of probation determined by the Member State, the Member State, at an appropriate level, shall end its designation.

The Member State shall notify the Commission without delay when a designated authority is put under probation, providing information on the respective period of probation, when, following implementation of remedial actions, the probation is ended, as well as when the designation of an authority is ended. The notification that a designated body is put on probation by the Member State, without prejudice to the application of Article 83, shall not interrupt the treatment of applications for interim payments.

- Where the designation of a managing authority or a certifying authority is ended, Member States shall designate, in accordance with the procedure provided for in paragraph 2, a new body, to take over the functions of the managing authority or of the certifying authority, and shall notify the Commission thereof.
- The Commission shall, in order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article, adopt implementing acts concerning the model for the report and opinion of the independent audit body and the description of the functions and procedures in place for the managing authority and, where appropriate, the certifying authority. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 150(3).

# Article 125

# Functions of the managing authority

- 1 The managing authority shall be responsible for managing the operational programme in accordance with the principle of sound financial management.
- 2 As regards the management of the operational programme, the managing authority shall:
  - a support the work of the monitoring committee referred to in Article 47 and provide it with the information it requires to carry out its tasks, in particular data relating to the progress of the operational programme in achieving its objectives, financial data and data relating to indicators and milestones;
  - b draw up and, after approval by the monitoring committee, submit to the Commission annual and final implementation reports referred to in Article 50;
  - c make available to intermediate bodies and beneficiaries information that is relevant to the execution of their tasks and the implementation of operations respectively;
  - d establish a system to record and store in computerised form data on each operation necessary for monitoring, evaluation, financial management, verification and audit, including data on individual participants in operations, where applicable;

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- e ensure that the data referred to in point (d) is collected, entered and stored in the system referred to in point (d), and that data on indicators is broken down by gender where required by Annexes I and II of the ESF Regulation.
- 3 As regards the selection of operations, the managing authority shall:
  - a draw up and, once approved, apply appropriate selection procedures and criteria that:
    - (i) ensure the contribution of operations to the achievement of the specific objectives and results of the relevant priority;
    - (ii) are non-discriminatory and transparent;
    - (iii) take into account the general principles set out in Articles 7 and 8;
  - [XIb] ensure that a selected operation falls within the scope of the EMFF, the Fund or Funds concerned and can be attributed to a category of intervention or, in the case of the EMFF, a measure identified in the priority or priorities of the operational programme;]
  - [F1c ensure that the beneficiary is provided with a document setting out the conditions for support for each operation including the specific requirements concerning the products or services to be delivered under the operation, the financing plan, the time limit for execution, as well as the requirements regarding information, communication and visibility;]
    - d satisfy itself that the beneficiary has the administrative, financial and operational capacity to fulfil the conditions referred to in point (c) before approval of the operation;
    - e satisfy itself that, where the operation has started before the submission of an application for funding to the managing authority, applicable law relevant for the operation has been complied with;
    - f ensure that operations selected for support from the Funds or the EMFF do not include activities which were part of an operation which has been or should have been subject to a procedure of recovery in accordance with Article 71 following the relocation of a productive activity outside the programme area;
    - determine the categories of intervention or, in the case of the EMFF, the measures to which the expenditure of an operation shall be attributed.
- 4 As regards the financial management and control of the operational programme, the managing authority shall:
  - I<sup>F1</sup>a verify that the co-financed products and services have been delivered, that the operation complies with applicable law, the operational programme and the conditions for support of the operation and:
    - (i) where costs are to be reimbursed pursuant to point (a) of the first subparagraph of Article 67(1), that the amount of expenditure declared by the beneficiaries in relation to those costs has been paid;
    - (ii) in the case of costs reimbursed pursuant to points (b) to (e) of the first subparagraph of Article 67(1), that the conditions for reimbursement of expenditure to the beneficiary have been met;]
    - b ensure that beneficiaries involved in the implementation of operations reimbursed on the basis of eligible costs actually incurred maintain either a separate accounting system or an adequate accounting code for all transactions relating to an operation;
    - c put in place effective and proportionate anti-fraud measures taking into account the risks identified;

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- d set up procedures to ensure that all documents regarding expenditure and audits required to ensure an adequate audit trail are held in accordance with the requirements of point (g) of Article 72;
- e draw up the management declaration and annual summary referred to in [FI points (a) and (b) of Article 63(5) and Article 63(6) and (7) of the Financial Regulation].

By way of derogation from point (a) of the first subparagraph, the ETC Regulation may establish specific rules on verification applicable to cooperation programmes.

- 5 Verifications pursuant to point (a) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 4 shall include the following procedures:
  - a administrative verifications in respect of each application for reimbursement by beneficiaries;
  - b on-the-spot verifications of operations.

The frequency and coverage of the on-the-spot verifications shall be proportionate to the amount of public support to an operation and to the level of risk identified by such verifications and audits by the audit authority for the management and control system as a whole.

- 6 On-the-spot verifications of individual operations pursuant to point (b) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 5 may be carried out on a sample basis.
- Where the managing authority is also a beneficiary under the operational programme, arrangements for the verifications referred to in point (a) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 4 shall ensure adequate separation of functions.
- 8 The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 149, laying down rules specifying the information in relation to the data to be recorded and stored in computerised form within the monitoring system established under point (d) of paragraph 2 of this Article.

The Commission shall adopt implementing acts laying down the technical specifications of the system established under point (d) of paragraph 2 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 150(3).

- The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 149, laying down the detailed minimum requirements for the audit trail referred to in point (d) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 4 of this Article in respect of the accounting records to be maintained and the supporting documents to be held at the level of the certifying authority, managing authority, intermediate bodies and beneficiaries.
- The Commission shall, in order to ensure uniform conditions on the implementation of this Article, adopt implementing acts concerning the model for the management declaration referred to in point (e) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 4 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 150(2).

#### **Editorial Information**

X1 Substituted by Corrigendum to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general

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provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (Official Journal of the European Union L 347 of 20 December 2013).

# **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

#### Article 126

# Functions of the certifying authority

The certifying authority of an operational programme shall be responsible in particular for:

- drawing up and submitting payment applications to the Commission, and certifying that they result from reliable accounting systems, are based on verifiable supporting documents and have been subject to verifications by the managing authority;
- (b) drawing up the accounts referred to in [FI point (a) of Article 63(5) and Article 63(6) of the Financial Regulation];
- (c) certifying the completeness, accuracy and veracity of the accounts and that the expenditure entered in the accounts complies with applicable law and has been incurred in respect of operations selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the operational programme and complying with applicable law;
- (d) ensuring that there is a system which records and stores, in computerised form, accounting records for each operation, and which supports all the data required for drawing up payment applications and accounts, including records of amounts recoverable, amounts recovered and amounts withdrawn following cancellation of all or part of the contribution for an operation or operational programme;
- (e) ensuring, for the purposes of drawing up and submitting payment applications, that it has received adequate information from the managing authority on the procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure;
- (f) taking account when drawing up and submitting payment applications of the results of all audits carried out by, or under the responsibility of, the audit authority;
- (g) maintaining, in a computerised form, accounting records of expenditure declared to the Commission and of the corresponding public contribution paid to beneficiaries;
- (h) keeping an account of amounts recoverable and of amounts withdrawn following cancellation of all or part of the contribution for an operation. [XIAmounts recovered shall be repaid to the budget of the Union prior to the closure of the operational programme by deducting them from the subsequent payment application.]

#### **Editorial Information**

X1 Substituted by Corrigendum to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (Official Journal of the European Union L 347 of 20 December 2013).

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

#### Article 127

# Functions of the audit authority

The audit authority shall ensure that audits are carried out on the proper functioning of the management and control system of the operational programme and on an appropriate sample of operations on the basis of the declared expenditure. The declared expenditure shall be audited based on a representative sample and, as a general rule, on statistical sampling methods.

A non-statistical sampling method may be used on the professional judgement of the audit authority, in duly justified cases, in accordance with internationally accepted audit standards and in any case where the number of operations for an accounting year is insufficient to allow the use of a statistical method.

In such cases, the size of the sample shall be sufficient to enable the audit authority to draw up a valid audit opinion in accordance with [F1 Article 63(7) of the Financial Regulation].

The non-statistical sample method shall cover a minimum of 5 % of operations for which expenditure has been declared to the Commission during an accounting year and 10 % of the expenditure which has been declared to the Commission during an accounting year.

- Where audits are carried out by a body other than the audit authority, the audit authority shall ensure that any such body has the necessary functional independence.
- 3 The audit authority shall ensure that audit work takes account of internationally accepted audit standards.
- The audit authority shall, within eight months of adoption of an operational programme, prepare an audit strategy for performance of audits. The audit strategy shall set out the audit methodology, the sampling method for audits on operations and the planning of audits in relation to the current accounting year and the two subsequent accounting years. The audit strategy shall be updated annually from 2016 until and including 2024. Where a common management and control system applies to more than one operational programme, a single audit strategy may be prepared for the operational programmes concerned. The audit authority shall submit the audit strategy to the Commission upon request.

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- 5 The audit authority shall draw up:
  - a an audit opinion in accordance with [F1Article 63(7) of the Financial Regulation];
  - b a control report setting out the main findings of the audits carried out in accordance with paragraph 1, including findings with regard to deficiencies found in the management and control systems, and the proposed and implemented corrective actions.

Where a common management and control system applies to more than one operational programme, the information required under point (b) of the first subparagraph may be grouped in a single report.

- The Commission shall, in order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article, adopt implementing acts laying down models for the audit strategy, the audit opinion and the control report. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 150(2).
- The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 149, to set out the scope and content of audits of operations and audits of the accounts and the methodology for the selection of the sample of operations referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.
- 8 The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in accordance with Article 149, laying down detailed rules on the use of data collected during audits carried out by Commission officials or authorised Commission representatives.

# **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

## CHAPTER III

#### Cooperation with audit authorities

#### Article 128

# Cooperation with audit authorities

- 1 The Commission shall cooperate with audit authorities to coordinate their audit plans and methods and shall immediately exchange with those authorities the results of audits carried out on management and control systems.
- 2 To facilitate this cooperation in cases where a Member State designates more than one audit authority, the Member State may designate a coordination body.
- 3 The Commission, the audit authorities and any coordination body shall meet on a regular basis and, as a general rule, at least once a year, unless otherwise agreed, to examine the annual control report, the audit opinion and the audit strategy, and to exchange views on issues relating to improvement of the management and control systems.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### TITLE II

# [XIFINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, PREPARATION, EXAMINATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL CORRECTIONS]

#### CHAPTER I

## Financial management

#### Article 129

# Common rules for payments

The Member State shall ensure that by the closure of the operational programme, [XI the amount of public expenditure paid to beneficiaries is at least equal to the contribution from the Funds and the EMFF paid by the Commission to the Member State.]

#### Article 130

# Common rules for calculating interim payments and payment of the final balance

- The Commission shall reimburse as interim payments 90 % of the amount resulting from applying the co-financing rate for each priority, laid down in the decision adopting the operational programme, to the eligible expenditure for the priority included in the payment application. The Commission shall determine the remaining amounts to be reimbursed as interim payments or to be recovered in accordance with Article 139.
- [X12] The contribution from the Funds or the EMFF to a priority through the interim payments and payment of the final balance shall not be higher than:
  - a the eligible public expenditure indicated in the payment applications for the priority; or
  - b the contribution from the Funds or the EMFF for the priority laid down in the decision of the Commission approving the operational programme,

## whichever is the lower.

[F23] By way of derogation from paragraph 2, the contribution from the Funds or the EMFF through payments of the final balance for each priority per Fund and per category of regions in the final accounting year shall not exceed, by more than 10 %, the contribution from the Funds or the EMFF for each priority per Fund and per category of regions as laid down in the decision of the Commission approving the operational programme.

The contribution from the Funds or the EMFF through payments of the final balance in the final accounting year shall not exceed the eligible public expenditure declared or the contribution from each Fund and category of regions to each operational programme as laid down in the decision of the Commission approving the operational programme, whichever is the lower.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

F2 Inserted by Regulation (EU) 2020/558 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2020 amending Regulations (EU) No 1301/2013 and (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards specific measures

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

to provide exceptional flexibility for the use of the European Structural and Investments Funds in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

# I<sup>F1</sup>Article 131

# **Payment applications**

- 1 Payment applications shall include, for each priority:
  - the total amount of eligible expenditure incurred by beneficiaries and paid in implementing operations, as entered in the accounting system of the certifying authority;
  - the total amount of public expenditure incurred in implementing operations, as entered in the accounting system of the certifying authority.

With regard to the amounts to be included in payment applications for the form of support referred to in point (e) of the first subparagraph of Article 67(1), the payment applications shall include the elements set out in the delegated acts adopted in accordance with Article 67(5a) and shall use the model for payment applications set out in the implementing acts adopted in accordance with paragraph 6 of this Article.

- Eligible expenditure included in a payment application shall be supported by receipted invoices or accounting documents of equivalent probative value, except for the forms of support referred to in points (b) to (e) of the first subparagraph of Article 67(1) of this Regulation, Articles 68, 68a and 68b of this Regulation, Article 69(1) of this Regulation and Article 109 of this Regulation and in Article 14 of the ESF Regulation. For those forms of support, the amounts included in a payment application shall be the costs calculated on the applicable basis.
- In the case of State aid, the public contribution corresponding to the expenditure included in a payment application shall have been paid to the beneficiaries by the body granting the aid or, where Member States have decided that the beneficiary is the body granting the aid pursuant to point (10)(a) of Article 2, paid by the beneficiary to the body receiving the aid.
- By way of derogation from paragraph 1 of this Article, in the case of State aid, the payment application may include advances paid to the beneficiary by the body granting the aid or, where Member States have decided that the beneficiary is the body granting the aid pursuant to point (10)(a) of Article 2, paid by the beneficiary to the body receiving the aid, under the following cumulative conditions:
  - those advances are subject to a guarantee provided by a bank or other financial institution established in the Member State or are covered by a facility provided as a guarantee by a public entity or by the Member State;
  - those advances do not exceed 40 % of the total amount of the aid to be granted to a beneficiary for a given operation or, where Member States have decided that the beneficiary is the body granting the aid pursuant to point (10)(a) of Article 2, of the total amount of the aid to be granted to the body receiving the aid as part of a given operation;
  - those advances are covered by expenditure paid by the beneficiary or, where Member States have decided that the beneficiary is the body granting the aid pursuant to point (10)(a) of Article 2, expenditure paid by the body receiving the aid in implementing the operation, and supported by receipted invoices or accounting documents of equivalent probative value within three years of the year of the payment of the advance or on 31 December 2023, whichever is earlier.

Where the conditions set out in point (c) of the first subparagraph are not met, the next payment application shall be corrected accordingly.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in

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- 5 Each payment application which includes advances of the type referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article shall separately disclose:
  - a the total amount paid from the operational programme as advances;
  - b the amount which, within three years of the payment of the advance in accordance with point (c) of the first subparagraph of paragraph 4, has been covered by expenditure paid by the beneficiary or, where Member States have decided that the beneficiary is the body granting the aid pursuant to point (10)(a) of Article 2, by the body receiving the aid; and
  - the amount which has not been covered by expenditure paid by the beneficiary or, where Member States have decided that the beneficiary is the body granting the aid pursuant to point (10)(a) of Article 2, by the body receiving the aid, and for which the three year period has not yet elapsed.
- 6 The Commission shall, in order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article, adopt implementing acts laying down the model for payment applications. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 150(3).]

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

# Article 132

# Payment to beneficiaries

Subject to the availability of funding from initial and annual pre-financing and interim payments, the managing authority shall ensure that a beneficiary receives the total amount of eligible public expenditure due in full and no later than 90 days from the date of submission of the payment claim by the beneficiary.

No amount shall be deducted or withheld and no specific charge or other charge with equivalent effect shall be levied that would reduce amounts due to beneficiaries.

- 2 The payment deadline referred to in paragraph 1 may be interrupted by the managing authority in either of the following duly justified cases:
  - the amount of the payment claim is not due or the appropriate supporting documents, including the documents necessary for management verifications under point (a) of the first subparagraph of Article 125(4), have not been provided;
  - b an investigation has been initiated in relation to a possible irregularity affecting the expenditure concerned.

The beneficiary concerned shall be informed in writing of the interruption and the reasons for it.

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#### Article 133

#### Use of the euro

- 1 Member States which have not adopted the euro as their currency on the date of an application for payment shall convert the amounts of expenditure incurred in national currency into euro. Those amounts shall be converted into euro using the monthly accounting exchange rate of the Commission in the month during which the expenditure was registered in the accounts of the certifying authority of the operational programme concerned. The exchange rate shall be published electronically by the Commission each month.
- 2 By way of derogation from paragraph 1, the ETC Regulation may establish specific rules on the timing for conversion into euro.
- When the euro becomes the currency of a Member State, the conversion procedure set out in paragraph 1 shall continue to apply to all expenditure recorded in the accounts by the certifying authority before the date of entry into force of the fixed conversion rate between the national currency and the euro.

#### Article 134

# Payment of pre-financing

- The initial pre-financing amount shall be paid in instalments as follows:
  - a in 2014: 1 % of the amount of support from the Funds and the EMFF for the entire programming period to the operational programme or 1,5 % of the amount of support from the Funds and the EMFF for the entire programming period to the operational programme when a Member State has been receiving financial assistance since 2010, in accordance with Articles 122 and 143 TFEU, or from the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF), or is receiving financial assistance on 31 December 2013 in accordance with Articles 136 and 143 TFEU;
  - b in 2015: 1 % of the amount of support from the Funds and the EMFF for the entire programming period to the operational programme or 1,5 % of the amount of support from the Funds and the EMFF for the entire programming period to the operational programme when a Member State has been receiving financial assistance since 2010, in accordance with Articles 122 and 143 TFEU, or from the EFSF, or is receiving financial assistance on 31 December 2014 in accordance with Articles 136 and 143 TFEU;
  - c in 2016: 1 % of the amount of support from the Funds and the EMFF for the entire programming period to the operational programme.

If an operational programme is adopted in 2015 or later, the earlier instalments shall be paid in the year of adoption.

[F31a In addition to the instalments provided for in points (b) and (c) of paragraph 1, an additional initial pre-financing amount of 3,5 % of the amount of support from the Funds and the EMFF for the entire programming period shall be paid to operational programmes in Greece each year in 2015 and 2016.

The additional initial pre-financing shall not apply to programmes under the European territorial cooperation goal nor to the specific allocation for the Youth Employment Initiative.

If, by 31 December 2016, the total amount of the additional initial pre-financing paid on the basis of this paragraph in 2015 and 2016 to an operational programme by Fund, where applicable, is not covered by payment applications submitted by the certifying authority for that programme, Greece shall repay to the Commission the total amount of the additional initial pre-financing for that Fund paid to that programme. Those repayments shall not constitute a financial correction and shall not reduce support from the Funds or the EMFF to the operational programmes. The amounts repaid shall constitute internal assigned revenue in accordance with point (c) of Article 21(3) of the Financial Regulation.]

An annual pre-financing amount shall be paid before 1 July in the years 2016 to 2023. It shall be a percentage of the amount of the support from the Funds and the EMFF for the whole programming period to the operational programme as follows:

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    2016: 2 %
    2017: 2,625 %
    2018: 2,75 %
    2019: 2,875 %
    [F42020: 3 %]
    [F52021 to 2023: 2 %.]
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When calculating the amount of initial pre-financing referred to in paragraph 1, the amount of support for the entire programming period shall exclude the amounts from the performance reserve which were initially allocated to the operational programme.

When calculating the amount of annual pre-financing referred to in paragraph 2 up to and including 2020, the amount of support for the entire programming period shall exclude the amounts from the performance reserve which were initially allocated to the operational programme.

## **Textual Amendments**

- F3 Inserted by Regulation (EU) 2015/1839 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 October 2015 amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards specific measures for Greece.
- **F4** Substituted by Regulation (EU) 2020/1542 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2020 amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards the adjustment of annual prefinancing for the years 2021 to 2023.
- **F5** Inserted by Regulation (EU) 2020/1542 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2020 amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards the adjustment of annual pre-financing for the years 2021 to 2023.

# Article 135

# Deadlines for presentation of interim payment applications and for their payment

- 1 The certifying authority shall submit on a regular basis an application for interim payment in accordance with Article 131(1) covering amounts entered in its accounting system in the accounting year. However, the certifying authority, where it considers it to be necessary, may include such amounts in payment applications submitted in subsequent accounting years.
- The certifying authority shall submit the final application for an interim payment by 31 July following the end of the previous accounting year and, in any event, before the first application for interim payment for the next accounting year.

- 3 The first application for interim payment shall not be made before the notification to the Commission of the designation of the managing authorities and certifying authorities in accordance with Article 124.
- 4 Interim payments shall not be made for an operational programme unless the annual implementation report has been sent to the Commission in accordance with the Fund-specific rules.
- 5 Subject to available funding, the Commission shall make the interim payment no later than 60 days after the date on which a payment application is registered with the Commission.

#### Article 136

#### **Decommitment**

- The Commission shall decommit any part of the amount in an operational programme that has not been used for payment of the initial and annual pre-financing and interim payments by 31 December of the third financial year following the year of budget commitment under the operational programme or for which a payment application drawn up in accordance with Article 131 has not been submitted in accordance with Article 135.
- 2 That part of commitments still open on 31 December 2023 shall be decommitted if any of the documents required under Article 141(1) has not been submitted to the Commission by the deadline set out in Article 141(1).

#### CHAPTER II

Preparation, examination and acceptance of accounts and closure of operational programmes and suspension of payments

## Section I

# Preparation, examination and acceptance of accounts

#### Article 137

# Preparation of the accounts

- The accounts referred to in [FI point (a) of Article 63(5) and Article 63(6) of the Financial Regulation] shall be submitted to the Commission for each operational programme. The accounts shall cover the accounting year and shall include at the level of each priority and, where applicable, fund and category of regions:
  - a the total amount of eligible expenditure entered into the accounting systems of the certifying authority which has been included in payment applications submitted to the Commission in accordance with Article 131 and Article 135(2) by 31 July following the end of the accounting year, the total amount of the corresponding public expenditure incurred in implementing operations, and the total amount of corresponding payments made to beneficiaries under Article 132(1);

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- b the amounts withdrawn and recovered during the accounting year, the amounts to be recovered as at the end of the accounting year, the recoveries effected pursuant to Article 71, and the irrecoverable amounts;
- the amounts of programme contributions paid to financial instruments under Article 41(1) and advances of State aid under Article 131(4);
- d for each priority, a reconciliation between the expenditure stated pursuant to point (a) and the expenditure declared in respect of the same accounting year in payment applications, accompanied by an explanation of any differences.
- Where expenditure previously included in an application for interim payment for the accounting year is excluded by a Member State from its accounts due to an ongoing assessment of that expenditure's legality and regularity, any or all of that expenditure subsequently found to be legal and regular may be included in an application for interim payment relating to subsequent accounting years.
- The Commission shall, in order to lay down uniform conditions for the implementation of this Article, adopt implementing acts setting out the model for the accounts referred to in this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 150(3).

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

# Article 138

## **Submission of information**

For each year from 2016 until and including 2025, Member States shall submit, by the deadline set out in [FI Article 63(5), and the second subparagraph of Article 63(7), of the Financial Regulation], the documents referred to in that Article namely:

- (a) the accounts, referred to in Article 137(1) of this Regulation, for the preceding accounting year;
- (b) the management declaration and the annual summary referred to in point (e) of the first subparagraph of Article 125(4) of this Regulation, for the preceding accounting year;
- (c) the audit opinion and the control report referred to in points (a) and (b) of the first subparagraph of Article 127(5) of this Regulation, for the preceding accounting year.

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

#### Article 139

# **Examination and acceptance of accounts**

- The Commission shall carry out an examination of the documents submitted by the Member State under Article 138. Upon request by the Commission, the Member State shall provide all necessary additional information to enable the Commission to determine whether the accounts are complete, accurate and true, by the deadline set out in Article 84.
- The Commission shall accept the accounts where it is able to conclude that the accounts are complete, accurate and true. The Commission shall reach such a conclusion where the audit authority has provided an unqualified audit opinion regarding the completeness, accuracy and veracity of the accounts unless the Commission has specific evidence that the audit opinion on the accounts is unreliable.
- The Commission shall inform the Member State by the deadline set out in Article 84 as to whether it is able to accept the accounts.
- If, for reasons attributable to Member State, the Commission is unable to accept the accounts by the deadline set out in Article 84, the Commission shall notify the Member States specifying the reasons in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article and the actions which are required to be undertaken and the time period for their completion. At the end of the time period for the completion of those actions the Commission shall inform the Member State as to whether it is able to accept the accounts.
- Issues related to legality and regularity of the underlying transactions concerning expenditure entered in the accounts shall not be taken into account for the purposes of acceptance of the accounts by the Commission. The procedure for examination and acceptance of the accounts shall not interrupt the treatment of applications for interim payments and shall not lead to suspension of payments, without prejudice to Articles 83 and 142.
- On the basis of the accepted accounts, the Commission shall calculate the amount chargeable to the Funds and to the EMFF for the accounting year and the consequent adjustments in relation to the payments to the Member State. The Commission shall take into account:
  - a the amounts in the accounts referred to in point (a) of Article 137(1) and to which the co-financing rate for each priority is to be applied;
  - b the total amount of payments made by the Commission during that accounting year, consisting of:
    - (i) the amount of interim payments paid by the Commission in accordance with Article 130(1) and Article 24; and
    - (ii) the amount of the annual pre-financing paid under Article 134(2).
- After the calculation carried out under paragraph 6, the Commission shall clear the respective annual pre-financing and pay any additional amount due within 30 days of the acceptance of the accounts. Where there is an amount recoverable from the Member State, it shall be subject to a recovery order issued by the Commission which shall be executed, where possible, by offsetting against amounts due to the Member State under subsequent payments to the same operational programme. [XI Such recovery shall not constitute a financial correction and shall not reduce support from the Funds and the EMFF to the operational programme.] The amount recovered shall constitute assigned revenue in accordance with Article 177(3) of the Financial Regulation.

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[<sup>F6</sup>By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, the Commission shall not issue a recovery order for amounts recoverable from the Member State for the accounts submitted in 2020. Amounts not recovered shall be used to accelerate investments related to the COVID-19 outbreak and eligible under this Regulation and Fund-specific rules.

The amounts not recovered shall be cleared or recovered at closure.]

- Where, after applying the procedure set out in paragraph 4, the Commission is unable to accept the accounts, the Commission shall determine, on the basis of the available information and in accordance with paragraph 6, [XI] the amount chargeable to the Funds and the EMFF for the accounting year, and shall inform the Member State. Where the Member State notifies the Commission of its agreement within two months of the transmission by the Commission of the information, paragraph 7 shall apply. In the absence of such agreement, the Commission shall adopt a decision, by means of implementing acts, setting out the amount chargeable to the Funds and the EMFF for the accounting year. Such decision shall not constitute a financial correction and shall not reduce support from the Funds and the EMFF to the operational programme]. On the basis of the decision, the Commission shall apply the adjustments to the payments to the Member State in accordance with paragraph 7.
- 9 The acceptance of the accounts by the Commission, or a decision by the Commission under paragraph 8 of this Article, shall be without prejudice to the application of corrections under Articles 144 and 145.
- Member States may replace irregular amounts which are detected after the submission of the accounts by making the corresponding adjustments in the accounts for the accounting year in which the irregularity is detected, without prejudice to Articles 144 and 145.

#### **Textual Amendments**

Inserted by Regulation (EU) 2020/460 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 March 2020 amending Regulations (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 508/2014 as regards specific measures to mobilise investments in the healthcare systems of Member States and in other sectors of their economies in response to the COVID-19 outbreak (Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative).

#### Article 140

# Availability of documents

Without prejudice to the rules governing State aid, [XI the managing authority shall ensure that all supporting documents regarding expenditure supported by the Funds and the EMFF on operations] for which the total eligible expenditure is less than EUR 1 000 000, are made available to the Commission and the European Court of Auditors upon request for a period of three years from 31 December following the submission of the accounts in which the expenditure of the operation is included.

In the case of operations other than those referred to in the first subparagraph, all supporting documents shall be made available for a two year period from 31 December following the submission of the accounts in which the final expenditure of the completed operation is included.

Document Generated: 2024-04-04 Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the

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A managing authority may decide to apply to operations for which the total eligible expenditure is less than EUR 1 000 000 the rule referred to in the second subparagraph.

[XI] The time period referred to in the first or second subparagraph shall be interrupted either in the case of legal proceedings or by a duly justified request of the Commission.]

- 2 The managing authority shall inform beneficiaries of the start date of the period referred to in paragraph 1.
- The documents shall be kept either in the form of the originals, or certified true copies of the originals, or on commonly accepted data carriers including electronic versions of original documents or documents existing in electronic version only. [F7]Where documents are kept on commonly accepted data carriers in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 5, no originals shall be required.]
- 4 The documents shall be kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data were collected or for which they are further processed.
- 5 The procedure for certification of conformity of documents held on commonly accepted data carriers with the original document shall be laid down by the national authorities and shall ensure that the versions held comply with national legal requirements and can be relied on for audit purposes.
- Where documents exist in electronic form only, the computer systems used shall meet accepted security standards that ensure that the documents held comply with national legal requirements and can be relied on for audit purposes.

# **Textual Amendments**

F7 Inserted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

# Section II

# Closure of operational programmes

#### Article 141

# Submission of closure documents and payment of the final balance

- In addition to the documents referred to in Article 138, for the final accounting year from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, Member States shall submit a final implementation report for the operational programme or the last annual implementation report for the operational programme supported by the EMFF.
- The final balance shall be paid no later than three months after the date of acceptance of accounts of the final accounting year or one month after the date of acceptance of the final implementation report, whichever date is later.

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#### Section III

# Suspension of payments

#### Article 142

# Suspension of payments

- 1 All or part of the interim payments at the level of priorities or operational programmes may be suspended by the Commission if one or more of the following conditions are met:
  - a there is a serious deficiency in the effective functioning of the management and control system of the operational programme, which has put at risk the Union contribution to the operational programme and for which corrective measures have not been taken;
  - [X1b] expenditure in a payment application is linked to an irregularity having serious financial consequences which has not been corrected;]
    - c the Member State has failed to take the necessary action to remedy the situation giving rise to an interruption under Article 83;
    - d there is a serious deficiency in the quality and reliability of the monitoring system or of the data on common and specific indicators;
    - e there is a failure to complete actions to fulfil an ex ante conditionality subject to the conditions set out in Article 19;
    - f there is evidence resulting from the performance review for a priority that there has been a serious failure in achieving that priority's milestones relating to financial and output indicators and key implementation steps set out in the performance framework subject to the conditions set out in Article 22.

The Fund-specific rules for the EMFF may lay down specific bases for suspension of payments linked to non-compliance with rules applicable under the Common Fisheries Policy, which shall be proportionate, having regard to the nature, gravity, duration and recurrence of the non-compliance.

- 2 The Commission may decide, by means of implementing acts, to suspend all or part of interim payments, after having given the Member State the opportunity to present its observations.
- The Commission shall end suspension of all or part of interim payments where the Member State has taken the necessary measures to enable the suspension to be lifted.

#### CHAPTER III

# Financial corrections

#### Section I

## Financial corrections by Member States

#### Article 143

#### **Financial corrections by Member States**

- 1 The Member States shall in the first instance be responsible for investigating irregularities and for making the financial corrections required and pursuing recoveries. In the case of a systemic irregularity, the Member State shall extend its investigation to cover all operations potentially affected.
- Member States shall make the financial corrections required in connection with individual or systemic irregularities detected in operations or operational programmes. Financial corrections shall consist of cancelling all or part of the public contribution to an operation or operational programme. The Member States shall take into account the nature and gravity of the irregularities and the financial loss to the Funds or the EMFF and shall apply a proportionate correction. [XIFinancial corrections shall be recorded in the accounts for the accounting year in which the cancellation is decided.]
- The contribution from the Funds or the EMFF cancelled in accordance with paragraph 2 may be reused by the Member State within the operational programme concerned, subject to paragraph 4.
- 4 The contribution cancelled in accordance with paragraph 2 may not be reused for any operation that was the subject of the correction or, where a financial correction is made for a systemic irregularity, for any operation affected by the systemic irregularity.
- 5 The Fund-specific rules for the EMFF may lay down specific bases for financial corrections by the Member States linked to non-compliance with rules applicable under the Common Fisheries Policy, which shall be proportionate, having regard to the nature, gravity, duration and recurrence of the non-compliance.

#### Section II

# Financial corrections by the Commission

#### Article 144

## Criteria for financial corrections

1 The Commission shall make financial corrections, by means of implementing acts, by cancelling all or part of the Union contribution to an operational programme in accordance with Article 85, where, after carrying out the necessary examination, it concludes that:

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- a there is a serious deficiency in the effective functioning of the management and control system of the operational programme which has put at risk the Union contribution already paid to the operational programme;
- b the Member State has not complied with its obligations under Article 143 prior to the opening of the correction procedure under this paragraph;
- c expenditure contained in a payment application is irregular and has not been corrected by the Member State prior to the opening of the correction procedure under this paragraph.

The Commission shall base its financial corrections on individual cases of identified irregularity and shall take account of whether an irregularity is systemic. Where it is not possible to quantify precisely the amount of irregular expenditure charged to the Funds or the EMFF, the Commission shall apply a flat rate or extrapolated financial correction.

- The Commission shall, when deciding on a correction under paragraph 1, respect the principle of proportionality by taking account of the nature and gravity of the irregularity and the extent and financial implications of the deficiencies in management and control systems found in the operational programme.
- Where the Commission bases its position on reports of auditors other than those of its own services, it shall draw its own conclusions regarding the financial consequences after examining the measures taken by the Member State concerned under Article 143(2), the notifications sent under Article 122(2), and any replies from the Member State.
- In accordance with Article 22(7), where the Commission, based on the examination of the final implementation report of the operational programme for the Funds or the last annual implementation report for the EMFF, establishes a serious failure to achieve the targets set out in the performance framework, it may apply financial corrections in respect of the priorities concerned, by means of implementing acts.
- [XI 5] When a Member State does not comply with its obligations under Article 95, the Commission may, in relation to the degree of non-compliance with those obligations, make a financial correction by cancelling all or part of the contribution from the Funds or the EMFF to the Member State concerned.]
- The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 149, laying down detailed rules concerning the criteria for determining serious deficiencies in the effective functioning of management and control systems, including the main types of such deficiencies, the criteria for establishing the level of financial correction to be applied and the criteria for applying flat rates or extrapolated financial corrections.
- The Fund-specific rules for the EMFF may lay down specific bases for financial corrections by the Commission linked to non-compliance with rules applicable under the Common Fisheries Policy which shall be proportionate having regard to the nature, gravity, duration and recurrence of the non-compliance.

#### Article 145

# **Procedure**

1 Before taking a decision on a financial correction, the Commission shall launch the procedure by informing the Member State of the provisional conclusions of its examination and requesting the Member State to submit its comments within two months.

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- Where the Commission proposes a financial correction on the basis of extrapolation or a flat rate, the Member State shall be given the opportunity to demonstrate, through an examination of the documentation concerned, that the actual extent of irregularity is less than the Commission's assessment. In agreement with the Commission, the Member State may limit the scope of this examination to an appropriate proportion or sample of the documentation concerned. Except in duly justified cases, the time allowed for that examination shall not exceed a further period of two months after the two-month period referred to in paragraph 1.
- The Commission shall take account of any evidence provided by the Member State within the time limits set out in paragraphs 1 and 2.
- Where the Member State does not accept the provisional conclusions of the Commission, the Member State shall be invited to a hearing by the Commission, in order to ensure that all relevant information and observations are available as a basis for conclusions by the Commission on the application of the financial correction.
- [X15] In the event of an agreement, and without prejudice to paragraph 7 of this Article, the Member State may reuse the Funds concerned or the EMFF in accordance with Article 143(3).]
- In order to apply financial corrections the Commission shall take a decision, by means of implementing acts, within six months of the date of the hearing, or of the date of receipt of additional information where the Member State agrees to submit such additional information following the hearing. The Commission shall take account of all information and observations submitted during the course of the procedure. If no hearing takes place, the six month period shall begin to run two months after the date of the letter of invitation to the hearing sent by the Commission.
- [XI7] Where the Commission in carrying out its responsibilities under Article 75, or the European Court of Auditors, detects irregularities demonstrating a serious deficiency in the effective functioning of the management and control systems, the resulting financial correction shall reduce support from the Funds or the EMFF to the operational programme.]

The first subparagraph shall not apply in the case of a serious deficiency in the effective functioning of a management and control system which, prior to the date of detection by the Commission or the European Court of Auditors:

- a had been identified in the management declaration, annual control report or the audit opinion submitted to the Commission in accordance with [F1Article 63(5), (6) and (7) of the Financial Regulation], or in other audit reports of the audit authority submitted to the Commission and appropriate measures taken; or
- b had been the subject of appropriate remedial measures by the Member State.

The assessment of serious deficiencies in the effective functioning of management and control systems shall be based on the applicable law when the relevant management declarations, annual control reports and audit opinions were submitted.

When deciding on a financial correction the Commission shall:

- a respect the principle of proportionality by taking account of the nature and gravity of the serious deficiency in the effective functioning of a management and control system and its financial implications for the budget of the Union;
- b for the purpose of applying a flat rate or extrapolated correction, exclude irregular expenditure previously detected by the Member State which has been the subject of an adjustment in the accounts in accordance with Article 139(10), and expenditure subject to an ongoing assessment of its legality and regularity under Article 137(2);

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- c take into account flat rate or extrapolated corrections applied to the expenditure by the Member State for other serious deficiencies detected by the Member State when determining the residual risk for the budget of the Union.
- 8 The Fund-specific rules for the EMFF may lay down additional rules of procedure for financial corrections referred to in Article 144(7).

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

## Article 146

# **Obligations of Member States**

A financial correction by the Commission shall not prejudice the Member State's obligation to pursue recoveries under Article 143(2) of this Regulation and to recover State aid within the meaning of Article 107(1) TFEU and under Article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) No 659/1999<sup>(2)</sup>.

#### Article 147

# Repayment

- [X1]. Any repayment due to be made to the budget of the Union shall be effected before the due date indicated in the order for recovery drawn up in accordance with [FIArticle 98 of the Financial Regulation]. The due date shall be the last day of the second month following the issuing of the order.]
- Any delay in effecting repayment shall give rise to interest on account of late payment, starting on the due date and ending on the date of actual payment. The rate of such interest shall be one-and-a-half percentage points above the rate applied by the European Central Bank in its main refinancing operations on the first working day of the month in which the due date falls.

## **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### TITLE III

# PROPORTIONAL CONTROL OF OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES

#### Article 148

# **Proportional control of operational programmes**

[F1] Operations for which the total eligible expenditure does not exceed EUR 400 000 for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, EUR 300 000 for the ESF or EUR 200 000 for the EMFF shall not be subject to more than one audit by either the audit authority or the Commission prior to the submission of the accounts for the accounting year in which the operation is completed. Other operations shall not be subject to more than one audit per accounting year by either the audit authority or the Commission prior to the submission of the accounts for the accounting year in which the operation is completed. Operations shall not be subject to an audit by the Commission or the audit authority in any year if there has already been an audit in that year by the European Court of Auditors, provided that the results of the audit work performed by the European Court of Auditors for such operations can be used by the audit authority or the Commission for the purpose of fulfilling their respective tasks.

By derogation from the first subparagraph, operations for which the total eligible expenditure is between EUR 200 000 and EUR 400 000 for the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund, between EUR 150 000 and EUR 300 000 for the ESF and between EUR 100 000 and EUR 200 000 for the EMFF may be subject to more than one audit, if the audit authority concludes, based on its professional judgment, that it is not possible to issue or draw up an audit opinion on the basis of statistical or non-statistical sampling methods referred to in Article 127(1) without carrying out more than one audit of the respective operation.]

- For operational programmes for which the most recent audit opinion indicates that there are no significant deficiencies, the Commission may agree with the audit authority in the subsequent meeting referred to in Article 128(3) that the level of audit work required may be reduced so that it is proportionate to the risk established. In such cases, the Commission shall not carry out its own on-the-spot audits unless there is evidence suggesting deficiencies in the management and control system affecting expenditure declared to the Commission in an accounting year for which the accounts have been accepted by the Commission.
- For operational programmes for which the Commission concludes that the opinion of the audit authority is reliable, it may agree with the audit authority to limit the Commission's own on-the-spot audits to audit the work of the audit authority unless there is evidence of deficiencies in the work of the audit authority for an accounting year for which the accounts have been accepted by the Commission.
- Notwithstanding paragraph 1, the audit authority and the Commission may carry out audits of operations in the event that a risk assessment or an audit by the European Court of Auditors establishes a specific risk of irregularity or fraud, in the case of evidence of serious deficiencies in the effective functioning of the management and control system of the operational programme concerned, and, during the period referred to in Article 140(1). The Commission may, for the purpose of assessing the work of an audit authority, review the audit trail of the audit authority or take part in the on-the-spot audits of the audit authority and, where, in accordance with internationally accepted audit standards, it is necessary for the purpose of obtaining assurance as to the effective functioning of the audit authority, the Commission may carry out audits of operations.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 Substituted by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 of 27 July 2006 on the European Fisheries Fund (OJ L 223, 15.8.2006, p. 1).
- (2) Council Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 of 22 March 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Article 93 of the EC Treaty (OJ L 83, 27.3.1999, p. 1).

## **Changes to legislation:**

There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

View outstanding changes

# Changes and effects yet to be applied to:

- Regulation disapplied by S.I. 2019/625 reg. 3Sch. 1 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Regulations revoked (13.10.2020) by S.I. 2020/1114, regs. 1(2), 2)
- Regulation power to modify conferred by 2023 asc 4 s. 19
- Regulation power to modify conferred by 2020 c. 21 s. 16
- Regulation power to modify conferred by 2020 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 6
- Regulation power to modify conferred by 2020 c. 21 Sch. 6 para. 7
- Regulation power to modify conferred (temp.) by 2020 asp 17 s. 2
- Regulation power to modify conferred (temp.) by 2020 asp 17 s. 3
- Regulation power to modify conferred (temp.) by 2020 asp 17 s. 4
- Regulation revoked in part by S.I. 2020/1542 Sch. Pt. 2
- Recital 10 Sentence 2 replacement by EUR 2018/1046 Regulation

# Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions

- Title 2 omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(7)
- Title 3 Ch. 1 omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(8)
- Title 7 Ch. 2 heading substituted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(22)
- Title 9 Ch. 1 omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(30)
- Title 9 Ch. 2 omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(30)
- Pt. 2 Title 8 omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 12
- Pt. 2 heading substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 5(1)
- Pt. 2 Title 1 heading substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 5(2)
- Pt. 2 heading words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 5(1) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(3)(a)
- Pt. 2 Title 1 heading words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 5(2) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(3)(b)
- Pt. 3 omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 14
- Signature words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 17(2)
- Annex 1 para. 2(3) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(5)(e)
- Annex 1 para. 3.1(2) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(a)(ii)
- Annex 1 para. 3.2(1)(b) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(b)(ii)
- Annex 1 para. 3.2(1)(f) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(b)(ii)
- Annex 1 para. 3.3(2) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(c)(ii)
- Annex 1 para. 4.2(2) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(c)(ii)
- Annex 1 para. 4.3-4.9 omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(d)
- Annex 1 para. 6.4(a) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(ii)
- Annex 1 para. 7.1(3)-(5) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(a)(iii)
- Annex 1 para. 1 substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(4)
- Annex 1 para. 2 heading substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(5)(a)
- Annex 1 para. 3.2(1) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(b)(i)
- Annex 1 para. 3.1 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(a)(i)(bb)
- Annex 1 para. 3.3(1) word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(c)(i)(cc)
- Annex 1 para. 4 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(a)(iv)
- Annex 1 para. 4.1(1) word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(i)(bb)
- Annex 1 para. 4.1(2) word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(v)
- Annex 1 para. 5.5(2) word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(e)(ii)(bb)
- Annex 1 para. 6.4 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(i)(bb)

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Annex 1 para. 2 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(5)(b)
Annex 1 para. 2 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(5)(c)
Annex 1 para. 3.1 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(a)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 3.3(1) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(c)(i)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 3.3(3) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(c)(iii)
Annex 1 para. 5.1(1) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(a)(i)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 5.1(1) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(a)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 5.2(1) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(b)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 5.2(1) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(b)(i)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 5.2(1) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(b)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 5.5(2) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(e)(ii)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 5.6 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(f)
Annex 1 para. 6.3 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(c)(i)
Annex 1 para. 6.4 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 6.4 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(i)(dd)
Annex 1 para. 6.4(d) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(iv)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 7(6) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(a)(iv)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 7(6) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(a)(iv)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 7.2-7.4 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(b)
Annex 1 para. 2 heading words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785,
reg. 18(3) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(11)(b)
Annex 1 para. 4 heading words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785,
reg. 18(3) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(11)(b)
Annex 1 para. 1 words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg.
18(4) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(11)(c)
Annex 1 para 3s. 3.3(4) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785,
reg. 18(6)(c)(iv) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(11)(d)
Annex 1 para 6s, 6.2 words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg.
18(9)(b)(i) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(11)(e)
Annex 1 para. 2 heading words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(3)
Annex 1 para. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(5)(d)(i)
Annex 1 para. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(5)(d)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 3.1 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(a)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 3.3(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(c)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 3.3(4) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(6)(c)(iv)
Annex 1 para. 4 heading words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(3)
Annex 1 para. 4 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(a)(i)
Annex 1 para. 4 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(a)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 4 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(a)(iii)
Annex 1 para. 4.1(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 4.1(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 4.1(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(iii)
Annex 1 para. 4.1(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(iv)
Annex 1 para. 4.1(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(vi)
Annex 1 para. 4.1(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(b)(vii)
Annex 1 para. 4.2(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(c)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 4.2(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(c)(i)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 4.2(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(7)(c)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 5.1(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(a)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 5.1(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(a)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 5.2(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(b)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 5.3(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(c)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 5.3(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(c)(i)(bb)
Annex 1 para. 5.3(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(c)(i)(cc)
Annex 1 para. 5.3(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(c)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 5.3(4) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(c)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 5.4(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(d)
Annex 1 para. 5.5(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(e)(i)
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Annex 1 para. 5.5(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(e)(ii)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 5.5(3) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(8)(e)(iii)
Annex 1 para. 6.1 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)
Annex 1 para. 6.2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(b)(i)
Annex 1 para. 6.2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(b)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 6.3 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(c)(ii)
Annex 1 para. 6.3 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(c)(iii)
Annex 1 para. 6.4 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(i)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 6.4(b) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(iii)
Annex 1 para. 6.4(d) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(d)(iv)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 6.5 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(9)(e)
Annex 1 para. 7(6) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(a)(iv)(aa)
Annex 1 para. 7.1(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(a)(i)
Annex 1 para. 7.1(2) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 18(10)(a)(ii)
Annex 4 para. 1(d) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(36)(a)(i)
Annex 4 para. 2 omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(36)(b)
Annex 4 para. 1 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 20(2)(a)
Annex 4 para. 1(e) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 20(2)(b)
Annex 4 para. 1(f) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 20(2)(c)
Annex 4 para. 1 words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(36)(a)(iv)
Annex 4 para. 1(e) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(36)(a)(ii)
Annex 4 para. 1(k) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(36)(a)(iii)
Annex 4 para. 1(i)(j) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg.
20(2)(d) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(12)(a)
Annex 4 para. 2(c) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg.
20(3) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(12)(b)
Annex 4 para. 1(i) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 20(2)(d)
Annex 4 para. 1(j) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 20(2)(d)
Annex 4 para. 2(c) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 20(3)
Annex 11 Pt. 1 omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(2)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(d)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(f)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(g)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 word omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(h)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(b)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 22(3)
(a) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(13)(a)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 22(3)
(c) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(13)(b)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(a)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(c)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(e)(i)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 22(3)(e)(ii)
Annex 11 Pt. 2 table words omitted by S.I. 2020/1470 Sch. 1 para. 7(9)
Art. 1(1)-(4) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(1)(d)(i)
Art. 1(5) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(1)(d)(ii)
Art. 1(6) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(1)(d)(iii) (This amendment not applied
to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 4(1)(d)(iii) omitted immediately before IP completion day
by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(2)(a)(iii))
Art. 2(1) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(a)
Art. 2(4) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(a)
Art. 2(4) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(b)
Art. 2(4) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(b) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(i)(aa)
Art. 2(4) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(b) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(i)(bb)
Art. 2(5) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(b)
Art. 2(5) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(c)
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Art. 2(6) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(d)
Art. 2(6) word substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(d)
by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(ii)
Art. 2(8) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(e)
Art. 2(8) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(e) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(iii)(bb)
Art. 2(8) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(e)
by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(iii)(aa)
Art. 2(10) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(f)
Art. 2(10)(a) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(c)(i)
Art. 2(10)(a) words substituted by S.S.I. 2020/477 reg. 2(2)
Art. 2(10)(b) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(c)(ii)
Art. 2(13) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(d)
Art. 2(15) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(e)
Art. 2(15) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(g)
Art. 2(15) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(g) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(iv)
Art. 2(16) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(h)
Art. 2(19) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(i)
Art. 2(20) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(j)
Art. 2(21) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(f)
Art. 2(21) words inserted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(k)
Art. 2(22) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(j)
Art. 2(23) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(j)
Art. 2(26) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(g)
Art. 2(27) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(h)
Art. 2(28) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(h)
Art. 2(28) words inserted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(1)
Art. 2(29) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(h)
Art. 2(29) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(m)
Art. 2(30) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(h)
Art. 2(30) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(m)
Art. 2(31)(32) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(n)
Art. 2(33) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(h)
Art. 2(33)(34) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)
(o) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(v)
Art. 2(33) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(o)
Art. 2(34) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(o)
Art. 2(35) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(p)
Art. 2(36) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(q)
Art. 2(36) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(q) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(vi)
Art. 2(37) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(r)
Art. 2(37) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(r) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(vii)
Art. 2(38) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(i)
Art. 2(39) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(i)
Art. 2(39) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(s) (This amendment not
applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 4(2)(s) omitted immediately before IP completion
day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(2)(b)(viii))
Art. 2(40)-(46) inserted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 4(2)(t)
Art. 2(42) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(3)(i)
Art. 2(43) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(t) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(ix)(aa)
Art. 2(44) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(t) by
S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(ix)(bb)
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Art. 2(46) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 4(2)(t) by S.I.

2020/1542 reg. 13(2)(b)(ix)(cc)

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- Art. 2(47)(48) inserted by S.I. 2019/748 reg. 74
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- Art. 2(47)(a) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/748, reg. 74 by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 14(a)
- Art. 2(48) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/748, reg. 74 by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 14(b)
- Art. 5(1)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 5(4)(b)
- Art. 8(2) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 5(7)(b)
- Art. 8(2) substituted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(6)
- Art. 8(2) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 5(7)(b) by
   S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(3)(e)(ii)(aa)
- Art. 8(2) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 5(7)(b) by
   S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(3)(e)(ii)(bb)
- Art. 9(1) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 6(1)(a)
- Art. 11(a) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 6(3)(a)
- Art. 11(c) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 6(3)(c)
- Art. 11(e) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 6(3)(d)
- Art. 11(f) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 6(3)(e)
- Art. 33(1)(c) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 7(7)(a)(i)
- Art. 33(1)(g) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 7(7)(a)(ii)
- Art. 33(1)(g) words substituted in earlier affecting provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 7(7)
   (a)(ii) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(5)(d)
- Art. 37(2)(a) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(12)(c)
- Art. 37(2)(b) words omitted by S.I. 2020/1470 Sch. 1 para. 7(2)(b)
- Art. 37(2)(b) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 8(1)(c) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(6)(a)(ii)
- Art. 37(2)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(1)(c)
- Art. 37(2)(d) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(1)(d)
- Art. 38(4)(a) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(2)(d)(i)
- Art. 38(4)(a) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 8(2)(d)
   (i) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(6)(b)(i)
- Art. 38(4)(b)(i) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(2)(d)(ii)(aa)
- Art. 38(4)(b)(iii) words omitted by S.I. 2019/1422 reg. 14(3)
- Art. 38(4)(b)(iii) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 8(2)(d)(ii)(dd) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(6)(b)(ii)
- Art. 38(4)(b)(iii) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(2)(d)(ii)(cc)
- Art. 38(4)(b)(iii) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(2)(d)(ii)(dd)
- Art. 38(4)(b)(ii) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(2)(d)(ii)(bb)
- Art. 38(7)(a) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(13)(b)(i)
- Art. 38(7)(b) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(13)(b)(ii)
- Art. 40(5A) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(14)(c)
- Art. 40(5A) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(4)(d)
- Art. 41(1)(a) substituted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(15)(a)(ii)
- Art. 41(1)(b) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(15)(a)(iii)
- Art. 41(1)(c) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(15)(a)(iv)
- Art. 41(1)(d) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(15)(a)(v)
- Art. 42(4)(a) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 8(5) by
   S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(6)(c)
- Art. 42(4)(a) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(5)
- Art. 43a(i) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 8(7)(a)(i) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(6)(e)
- Art. 44(1)(b) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 8(8)(b) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(6)(f)(ii)
- Art. 44(1)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 8(8)(b)
- Art. 59(1A) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 10(2)(b)
- Art. 59(3)(a) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 10(2)(d)(ii)
- Art. 59(3)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 10(2)(d)(iii)
- Art. 61(7)(a) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(2)(f)(i)
- Art. 61(7)(b) sum substituted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(21)(d)(i)

- Art. 61(7)(d) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(21)(d)(ii)
- Art. 61(7)(h) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(21)(d)(iii)
- Art. 61(7)(h) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(2)(f)(ii)(aa)
- Art. 61(7)(h) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(2)(f)(ii)(bb) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 11(2)(f)(ii)(bb) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(9)(a)(ii))
- Art. 63(1)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(4)(a)
- Art. 64(1)(b) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(5)(a)(ii)
- Art. 65(8)(a) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(24)(d)(i)
- Art. 65(8)(e) omitted by S.I. 2020/1470 Sch. 1 para. 7(7)
- Art. 65(8)(f) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(24)(d)(ii)
- Art. 65(8)(g) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(24)(d)(iii)
- Art. 65(8)(h) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(24)(d)(iv)
- Art. 65(8)(h) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(6)(d)(ii)(aa)
- Art. 65(8)(h) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(6)(d)(ii)(bb) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 11(6)(d)(ii)(bb) omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(9)(e)(v) (bb))
- Art. 65(8)(i) words substituted by S.S.I. 2020/477 reg. 2(7)(c)
- Art. 67(1)(e) words substituted by S.I. 2019/748 reg. 84(a)
- Art. 67(5)(b) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(8)(c)(ii)
- Art. 67(5)(c) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(8)(c)(iii)
- Art. 67(5)(d) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(26)(c)(ii)
- Art. 67(5)(e) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(26)(c)(iii)
- Art. 67(5)(aa) sum substituted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(26)(c)(i)(bb)
- Art. 67(5)(aa) words omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(26)(c)(i)(aa)
- Art. 67(5)(aa) words substituted by S.S.I. 2020/477 reg. 2(8)
- Art. 67(5)(aa) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(8)(c)(i)
- Art. 69(1)(d) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(12)(a)(i)(bb)
- Art. 70(2)(b) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 11(13)(b)(ii)
- Art. 70(2)(b) words omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/785, reg. 11(13)
   (b)(ii) by S.I. 2020/1542 reg. 13(9)(i)(ii)
- Art. 70(2)(c) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(28)(b)
- Art. 125(2)(a) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(31)
- Art. 125(2)(b) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(31)
- Art. 125(2)(b) substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(a)(i) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(2)(e) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(a)(ii) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(3)(b) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(b)(i)(bb) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(3)(b) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(b)(i)(aa) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(3)(f) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(b)(ii) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(3)(g) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(b)(iii) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(4)(a) word substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(c)(i) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))

- Art. 125(4)(d) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(c)(ii) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 125(4)(e) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(2)(c)(iii) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 126(a) words substituted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(3)(a) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 126(g) words omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(3)(b) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 126(h) omitted by S.I. 2019/785 reg. 15(3)(c) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Reg. 15 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1542, reg. 13(10))
- Art. 132(2)(a) omitted by S.I. 2021/400 reg. 6(33)(b)