



Brussels, 19.12.2023  
C(2023) 9055 final

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 19.12.2023**

**on the approval of an Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part, on the association of Montenegro to the EU4Health Programme**

## COMMISSION DECISION

of 19.12.2023

### **on the approval of an Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part, on the association of Montenegro to the EU4Health Programme**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the Stabilisation and Association Agreement<sup>1</sup>, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part, and in particular Article 132 thereof,

Having regard to Protocol 8 to the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part, on the general principles for the participation of Montenegro in Community programmes (the ‘Protocol’) and in particular Article 5 thereof,

WHEREAS:

- (1) The EU4Health Programme (2021-2027) was established by Regulation (EU) No 2021/522 of the European Parliament and the Council<sup>2</sup>.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 6(1), points b) of Regulation (EU) 2021/522, acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates may participate in the EU4Health Programme in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective framework agreements and Association Council decisions, or similar agreements, and in accordance with the specific conditions laid down in agreements between the Union and those countries.
- (3) Article 5 of the Protocol 8 on the general principles for the participation of Montenegro in Community Programmes, stipulates that the specific terms and conditions regarding the participation of Montenegro in each particular programme, in particular the financial contribution payable, will be determined by agreement, in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission, acting on behalf of the Community, and Montenegro.
- (4) By official letter dated 30 June 2023, Montenegro expressed an interest in participating in the EU4Health Programme.
- (5) By participating as an associate country in the EU4Health Programme, Montenegro is expected to contribute to the achievement of the general objectives of the EU4Health Programme for improving and fostering health by among others, supporting health promotion and disease prevention, protecting people from serious cross-border threats

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 108, 29.04.2010, p. 3, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree\\_internation/2010/224/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/2010/224/oj)

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/522 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing a Programme for the Union’s action in the field of health (‘EU4Health Programme’) for the period 2021-2027, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 282/2014, OJ L 107, 26.03.2021, p. 1., ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/522/oj>.

and strengthening the responsiveness of the health systems by improving their resilience and resource efficiency, improving the availability, accessibility and affordability of medicinal products and medical devices.

- (6) An agreement covering the association Montenegro to the EU4Health programme (the 'Agreement') has been negotiated between the Commission and the competent authorities of Montenegro. It is to be concluded in accordance with the procedures required for conclusion of international agreements under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (7) Article 5(3) of the Agreement provides for the provisional application of the agreement pending its entry into force.
- (8) Montenegro should contribute financially to the EU4Health Programme,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Sole Article*

1. The Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part, on the association of Montenegro in the EU4Health Programme for the period 2021-2027, as attached to this Decision, is hereby approved on behalf of the European Union.
2. The Commissioner in charge of Health and Food Safety or the person designated to represent her, is hereby authorised to sign the Agreement between the European Union, of the one part, and Montenegro, of the other part on the association of Montenegro to the EU4Health programme, on behalf of the Union.
3. Following its signature, or the date on which the Parties have notified each other of the completion of their internal procedures necessary for that purpose, this Agreement shall be applied provisionally, pending its entry into force.

Done at Brussels, 19.12.2023

*For the Commission*  
*Stella KYRIAKIDES*  
*Member of the Commission*