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NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF EU DELEGATIONS AND CONTRACTING AUTHORITIES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENLARGEMENT COUNTRIES

Subject: New extension of the flexibility arrangements regarding Twinning contracts in the context of the COVID-19 crisis situation

The Director General has extended the crisis declaration until 30 June 2022 (Ares(2021)3968336) in view of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

In this context, and to facilitate the work of the Contracting Authorities and the implementation of the Twinning projects, I extend the flexibility arrangements regarding Twinning contracts as established by my previous notes (Ares(2020)1847623 of 31/03, Ares(2020)5066153 of 28/09, and Ares(2020)7628234 of 15/12) from 1 July 2021 until 30 June 2022. This period may be extended further by an explicit decision if the situation so requires.

As all Twinning projects are specific, the Contracting Authorities remain empowered to assess the situation on a case-by-case basis and take the appropriate decisions regarding the implementation of the projects.

The extension of the flexibility arrangements are applicable for all ongoing Twinning projects, governed by any version of the Twinning Manual.

(e-signed)

Lawrence MEREDITH