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**MODERNISATION FUND**

Accelerating the transition to climate neutrality

# **MODERNISATION FUND**

## **EIB CONFIRMATION OF PRIORITY INVESTMENT**

### **SCHEME**

### **Subsequent Disbursement Request**

ref. MF 2024-2 EE 0-003

*Beneficiary Member State: Estonia*

*Investment Proposal: Energy-efficient low-emission public transport programme*

#### **1. Background**

The Modernisation Fund was set up pursuant to Article 10d of Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Union and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC (the “ETS Directive”).

The legal basis for the operation of the Modernisation Fund is set out in the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1001 of 9 July 2020 laying down detailed rules for the application of Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the operation of the Modernisation Fund supporting investments to modernise the energy systems and to improve energy efficiency of certain Member States (the “Implementing Regulation”).

In accordance with Article 10d(6) of the ETS Directive, the European Investment Bank (the “EIB”) is to confirm whether a proposed investment falls into a priority area. The EIB may confirm the proposal as a priority investment if the conditions specified in Article 6(7) of the Implementing Regulation are met.

After the European Commission has decided on the first disbursement to the scheme, any subsequent disbursement shall require a separate proposal from the beneficiary Member State specifying the amount to be disbursed and containing the updated information about the scheme, as appropriate.

In accordance with Article 6(8) of the Implementing Regulation, where a proposal concerns a subsequent disbursement for a scheme confirmed by the EIB in accordance with Article 6(9) of the Implementing Regulation prior to the first disbursement and there have been no changes to the scheme, the EIB may confirm the proposal as a priority investment provided that the following conditions are met:

- a) the beneficiary Member State has sufficient funds available in the relevant category or subcategory of funds according to the statement of the available funds referred to in Article 5(1) of the Implementing Regulation and after deduction of any amounts to be disbursed for investments already confirmed in accordance with paragraph 9 of this Article 6(9) of the Implementing Regulation;
- b) the beneficiary Member State has provided evidence that the investment proposal fulfils either of the following requirements:
  - is exempted from the State aid notification in accordance with the applicable State aid rules,
  - does not constitute State aid within the meaning of Article 107(1) of the Treaty;
- c) the beneficiary Member State provides information about the implementation of the scheme in accordance with Annex I, point 4.2.

## **2. Investment proposal**

Pursuant to Article 4(2) (second sentence) of the Implementing Regulation, on 10/09/2024 the BMS (the “beneficiary Member State”) submitted to the EIB an investment proposal concerning a subsequent disbursement from the Modernisation Fund for the “Energy-efficient low-emission public transport programme”, (Modernisation Fund reference number MF 2024-2 EE 0-003).

The investment scheme “Energy-efficient low-emission public transport programme” was confirmed as a priority investment proposal by the EIB on 11/10/2021 (Modernisation Fund reference number MF 2021-2 EE 0-002).

The European Commission issued Decision C(2021) 9135 on the first disbursement of the revenues of the Modernisation Fund under Directive 2003/87/EC on 6 December 2021.

The EIB has already disbursed an amount of EUR 64 783 700 of the revenues of the Modernisation Fund.

The beneficiary Member State has requested funding of EUR 22 100 000 for a subsequent disbursement under the investment proposal.

The beneficiary Member State has indicated an expected Modernisation Fund funding for the scheme of EUR 130 000 000.

## **3. Compliance with the conditions for priority investment**

- a) The beneficiary Member State has confirmed that there have been no changes to the scheme.
- b) The beneficiary Member State has sufficient funds available from the auctioning of allowances referred in Article 10(1), the third subparagraph of Directive 2003/87/EC - 2% for the requested disbursement according to the statement of the available funds referred to in Article 5(1) of the Implementing Regulation

and after deduction of any amounts to be disbursed for investments already confirmed in accordance with Article 6(9) of the Implementing Regulation.

- c) The beneficiary Member State has provided evidence that the measures under the investment proposal:
- are exempted from the State aid notification in accordance with applicable State aid rules;
  - do not constitute State aid within the meaning of Article 107(1) of the Treaty.
- d) The beneficiary Member State has provided information about the status of implementation of the scheme in accordance with Annex I, point 4.2a of the Implementing Regulation.

#### **4. Conclusions**

The EIB has assessed the subsequent disbursement proposal based on the information submitted by the beneficiary Member State in accordance with Article 4 and Annex 1 of the Implementing Regulation and has concluded that the proposal meets the conditions specified in Article 6(8) of the Implementing Regulation.

In view of the above, and in reliance on the information and evidence provided and the confirmations given by the beneficiary Member State as described at paragraph 3 above, the EIB confirms the subsequent disbursement proposal “Energy-efficient low-emission public transport programme”, (Modernisation Fund reference number MF 2024-2 EE 0-003) as a priority proposal.

This confirmation is without prejudice to the requirement for a disbursement decision to be made pursuant to Article 10d(3) of the ETS Directive.

European Investment Bank  
Luxembourg, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024