



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

**STATE AGENCY FOR STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING AND AID
COORDINATION**

No. 1002 prot.

Tirana, on 1504.2025

Subject: Request for the release of funds.

MS. VALENTINA SUPERTI

**ENEST.B – WESTERN BALKANS
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENLARGEMENT AND THE EASTERN
NEIGHBOURHOOD (DG ENEST)**

Address: European Commission, Rue de la Loi 15/ Wetstraat 15, 1049, Brussels, Belgium

Cc:

H.E MR. SILVIO GONZATO

AMBASSADOR OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO ALBANIA

Address: ABA Business Center, "Papa Gjon Pali II" Street, Tirana

MR. HUBERT PERR

EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION IN ALBANIA

Address: ABA Business Center, "Papa Gjon Pali II" Street, Tirana

MR. PETRIT MALAJ

MINISTER OF FINANCE

Address: Bulevardi "Deshmoret e Kombit" nr.3, Tirana

I declare that, for the implementation of the EU financial assistance to Albania under the Facility for the period December 2024 and June 2025 and anticipated measures for December 2025 based

Address: Rruga "Kuvajt", Tirana, Albania

on my own judgement and on the information at my disposal, as well as on the evidence enclosed, the payment conditions set out in the Albania Reform Agenda for the following steps have been fulfilled:

Measures under the Facility for the period December 2024:

Reform	Step	Financial Value
1.1.1 Increase domestic revenue mobilization and the comprehensiveness of the tax system, notably via adopting and implementing the Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS)	Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS) updated and adopted	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
1.1.3 Increase the attractiveness and transparency of investments, in line with EU practices, improve State-owned Enterprises and State Aid governance	Ensure that all the new board members of SOEs are appointed through transparent and merit-based procedures	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
1.1.4 Improve the investment attractiveness framework and in particular the FDI framework and business environment by deregulation and modernization of business services.	Adopt legal amendments to facilitate administrative procedures for businesses.	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
2.3.1 Strengthen the R+I national environment by adopting enabling strategic framework	Adopt the S3 Smart Specialisation Strategy	EUR 3 008 436,82871126
3.2.1 Improve enabling environment for innovative businesses and their take up of the potential of the green and digital agenda, including enabling relevant financial support	Adopt the Innovative Entrepreneurship Strategy	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
3.2.1 Improve enabling environment for innovative businesses and their take up of the potential of the green and digital agenda, including enabling relevant financial support	Prepare a grants scheme with focus on SMEs and/or start-ups, where 30% of total SMEs and/or startups funds target green and/or digital	EUR 3 008 436,82871126

4.1.1 Aligning with electricity integration package to enable electricity market coupling of the EU and Albania, establish the intraday electricity market, operationalize the package in line with the market coupling operator integration plan by 2025	Continue implementation of the electricity integration package by making operational the intraday electricity market, in line with Energy Community requirements	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
4.1.2 Extent of tariffs adjustments to market prices accompanied with measures to address energy poverty	Action Plan [December 2024] [Gradual phase out of public intervention in the price-setting for the supply of electricity, through deregulation for mid and high voltage, in line with the law on Power Sector]	EUR 1 504 218,41435563
4.2.1 Develop transparent and competitive quantity-based action plan for renewable energy: Planning for 3 years in place.	Adopt a quantity-based auction plan for at least 600 MW of new renewable energy capacities installation for the following three years (ongoing for 300MW to be considered as part of the triennial Auction plan)	EUR 3 008 436,82871126
4.2.2 Implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive: adopt RES legislation, streamline permitting, establish the renewable energy communities, operationalize guarantees of origin.	System to issue serviceable guarantees of origin for renewable energy operational	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
4.4.1 Adoption and implementation of long-term building renovation strategy, and energy efficiency scheme	Long-term building renovation strategy adopted, with earmarked necessary financing for 2025 and 2026 to fulfil the 3% annual renovation goal in existing government public buildings	EUR 1 504 218,41435563
4.4.1 Adoption and implementation of long-term	Adopt the national legislation to align with Labelling	EUR

building renovation strategy, and energy efficiency scheme		6 016 873,65742251
5.3.1 Ensure a reliable and stable framework to prevent and counter money laundering	Adopt a new National Strategy on prevention of Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism Financing and its Action Plan 2024- 2030	EUR 1 504 218,41435563
5.4.1 Consolidate judicial independence and accountability by transparency	Vetting cases with suspicion of criminal elements finalized at first instance (IQC) [with termination decision] referred to the prosecution office	EUR 9 025 310,48613377
5.5.1 Effectively prevent corruption, decrease incidence of corruption	Enhance the transparency, by establishing an open data platform on national and local budget and public spending in partnership with civil society, and publication of all asset declarations on the website of the High Inspectorate of Declaration and Audit of Assets and Conflicts of Interest (HIDAACI), in compliance with the law on right to information and protection of personal data	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
5.6.1 Enhance freedom of expression, in line with European Standards	Adopt amendments of legal framework on transparency of media ownership	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
TOTAL		EUR 76 715 139.13

Measures under the Facility for the period June 2025:

Reform	Step	Financial Value
1.1.2 Ensure transparency and efficiency of state cadastre services, for investors and citizens and provide clear policy for land usage.	Adopt a comprehensive Road Map to achieve tangible results to finalise the digitisation processes, therefore, for previously paper-based cadastral ownership titles and cadastral maps in all cadastral zones to be digitalized, by prioritizing those with economic relevance and first registrations, to be fully completed	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
1.1.1 Increase domestic revenue mobilisation and the comprehensiveness of the tax system, notably via adopting and implementing the Medium-Term Revenue Strategy (MTRS).	Including a measure on (inter alia) an evaluation of all tax exemptions with a view to deciding whether any can be phased out, and with a view to deciding whether the use of the data sets from third parties enable unjustified wealth investigations can be possible	EUR 1 504218,41435563
1.1.3 Increase the attractiveness and transparency of investments, in line with EU practices, improve State-owned Enterprises and State Aid governance (SOEs)	and amend relevant regulations to introduce rules on the appointment of board members of SOEs, subject to open and merit-based recruitment processes	EUR 9 025 310,48613377
1.1.3 Increase the attractiveness and transparency of investments, in line with EU practices, improve State-owned Enterprises and State Aid governance (PPP)	Adopt PPP/concession law in line with EU acquis and EU best practices	EUR 9 025 310,48613377
1.1.5 Development of e-freight and Intelligent Transport System	Adopt relevant legislation to align with the Regulation of EU 2020/ 1056 on electronic freight information (eFTI)	0
1.1.6 Promotion of export and internationalisation of enterprises, including the facilitation of	The laws on Animal Health and on Plant Health are adopted and	EUR 6 016 873,65742251

exports and trade, and value chain support to selected industries with growth potential.	are fully aligned with the EU acquis	
2.2.1 Strengthen the efficiency of the Unemployment Policy Scheme	Offer diversified new ALMP targeting jobseekers' beneficiaries of economic aid, long-term unemployed jobseekers and long-term unemployed jobseekers with basic/no prior education	EUR 9 025 310,48613377
3.1.2 Update the framework for cyber resilience, by introducing requirements of NIS2 Directive and strengthening relevant institutions	Update the list of critical infrastructure in scope of the national law in line with the NIS2 Directive	EUR 3 008 436,82871126
3.1.3 Update the framework for a secure and sustainable digital infrastructure.	Implement regulatory and institutional capacity measures to secure 5G infrastructures roll-out, in compliance with the EU 5G cybersecurity toolbox	EUR 6 0168 73,65742251
4.1.1 Align with electricity integration package to enable electricity market coupling of the EU and Albania, establish the intraday electricity market, operationalise the package in line with the market coupling operator integration plan by 2025	Adopt legal amendments to align with the electricity integration package in line with the Energy Community requirements and start implementation	0
4.2.2 Implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive: adopt RES legislation, streamline permitting, establish the renewable energy communities, operationalise guarantees of origin.	Adopt law to align with 2018 Renewable Energy Directive on biomass/biofuels, including sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels;	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
4.2.2 Implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive: adopt RES legislation, streamline permitting, establish the renewable energy communities, operationalise guarantees of origin.	Adopt amendments to the in-force regulations for the permit issuance to simplify permit issuance procedures for renewables (households and large installation)	0
4.4.1 Adoption and implementation of long-term	Legal Amendments of relevant law/ June 2025; [Implement	EUR

building renovation strategy, and energy efficiency scheme	annual rate of building renovation in accordance with indicative targets [number of public buildings renovated] included into the long-term building renovation strategy]	6 016 873,65742251
5.1.1 Establish an Asset Recovery Office, as a National Coordination Unit and regional/international contact point, contributing to improvement of seizures and confiscation	An Asset Recovery Office is established and operational	EUR 9 025 310,48613377
5.4.1 Consolidate judicial independence and accountability by transparency	and effective judicial follow up for vetting cases resulting with suspicion of criminal elements continue to be referred to prosecution	EUR 12 033 747,314845
5.4.1 Consolidate judicial independence and accountability by transparency	The High Judicial and Prosecutorial Councils ensure high transparency, share publicly all the information related to appointments, (career periodic (evaluations), promotions and transfers, as well as the level of implementation of recommendations of thematic inspections by HJI	EUR 12 033 747,314845
5.4.2 Enhance judicial efficiency at all levels	HJC effectively adopts and implements a comprehensive road map to increase efficiency and reduce backlog based on the latest methodology as adopted by the CEPEJ backlog reduction tool-book, with measurable targets, statistics, and a robust monitoring structure	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
5.4.2 Enhance judicial efficiency at all levels	Improve the national judicial statistics by adopting and implementing a new instruction of Minister of Justice on national justice statistics, based	EUR 1 504 218,41435563

	on CEPEJ methodology and in consultation with the self-government justice institutions,	
5.6.1 Enhance freedom of expression, in line with European standards	Increased capacities of law enforcement bodies to handle cases of violence, including on the margins of protests, and other criminal cases involving journalists, notably by ensuring high human rights compliance in handling incidents involving journalists, through binding instructions, data collection and capacity building measures	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
5.6.1 Enhance freedom of expression, in line with European standards	Conduct a policy impact assessment and a legal gap analysis on the Digital Service Act Regulation with the aim to align it into the national legislation, to increase protection of users' rights and safe content	EUR 1 504 218,41435563
TOTAL		EUR 109 807 944.25

Anticipated Measures under the Facility for the period December 2025:

Reform	Step	Financial Value
1.1.4 Improve the investment attractiveness framework and in particular the FDI framework and business environment by deregulation and modernisation of business services.	Adopt legal amendments to improve and facilitate inspection praxis for businesses	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
3.2.1 Improve enabling environment for innovative businesses and their take up of the potential of the green and digital agenda, including enabling relevant financial support	and execute a grants scheme with focus on SMEs and/or start-ups, where 30% of total SMEs and/or start-ups funds target green and/or digital solutions	EUR 9 025 310,48613377
5.2.1 strengthen the institutional capacity and strategic framework with the aim of reduction of illicit drugs supply and demand	A National Early Warning System is operational	EUR 9 025 310,48613377

5.7.1 Aligning visa requirements with European standards	Terminating visa-free agreements with at least two countries in 2025, and at least one each in both 2026 and 2027, which are visa required for the EU	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
1.1.5 Deployment of e-freight and Intelligent Transport Systems	Ratify the added Protocol to the United Nations Convention for the carriage of goods, on the "electronic consignment-note" (eCMR) for International Carriage of Goods by Road needed to deploy eFTI	EUR 6 016 873,65742251
TOTAL		EUR 36 101 241.94

On the basis of the above, I request that the amount of **EUR 204,182,607.56 €** which reflects the net amount after the proportional deduction of the prefinancing value of EUR 18 441 717,76, is made available, with EUR 94 994 047.37 disbursed directly to the treasury of the Republic of Albania, and EUR 109 188 560.19 to be made available through the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), of which EUR 50 590 699.56 in the form of loans and EUR 58 597 860.64 in the form of non-repayable support.

I hereby attach an assessment of each step, the required evidence showing the satisfactory fulfilment of the qualitative and quantitative steps set out in the relevant Annex to the Commission implementing decision and other information requested as per Article 14 of the Facility Agreement.

I hereby also declare that measures related to the reforms for which satisfactory fulfilment has been declared previously in prior Commission decisions have not been reversed by Albania.


ERIDANA CANO
RGF NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Address: Rruga "Kuvajt", Tirana, Albania