

# GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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## **Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 12 January 2021, No. Min-BuZa.2021.11211-21, laying down a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 and amending Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 26 February 2019, Min-BuZa.2019.2328-18, laying down policy rules and a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 (Fourth round of and amendment to the policy rules for the Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022)**

The Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation,

Having regard to Articles 6 and 7 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Grants) Decree; and

Having regard to Article 5.1 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006; has decided as follows:

### **Article 1**

Applications for subsidy in connection with the fourth round of the Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022<sup>1</sup> may be submitted from 9:00 CET on 4 February 2022 until 12:00 CET on 30 September 2022.

### **Article 2**

Regarding subsidies awarded in the fourth round of the Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022, the following subsidy ceiling shall apply for the period from the entry into force of this Order up to and including 31 December 2022:

- a. €4.8 million for activities by companies and civil-society organisations to make their international value chains sustainable (first pillar);
- b. €450,000 to support civil-society organisations in their role in the implementation of international Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) agreements (second pillar).

### **Article 3**

The appendix to Order of the Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 26 February 2019, Min-BuZa.2019.2328-18, laying down policy rules and a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 (Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business) shall be amended as follows:

A

Section II.4.2. **Allocation of available resources** shall read as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 26 February 2019, Min-BuZa.2019.2328-18 laying down policy rules and a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 (Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022), Government Gazette 2019, No. 12517, as amended by Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 20 January 2020, Min-BuZa.2020.4784-16 laying down policy rules and a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 (Second round of the Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022), Government Gazette 2020, No. 4876, by Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 14 July 2020, No. Min-BuZa.2020.5169-22 amending Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 26 February 2019, Min-BuZa. 2019.2328-18, laying down policy rules and a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 (Amendment to the Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022), Government Gazette 2020, No. 39708, and by Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 8 February 2021, No. Min-BuZa.2021.6471-14 amending Order of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 26 February 2019, Min-BuZa. 2019.2328-18, laying down policy rules and a ceiling for subsidies awarded under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Subsidy Scheme 2006 (Amendment to the Subsidy Programme for the Fund for Responsible Business 2019-2022), Government Gazette 2021, No. 7494.

For every round in the first pillar, the resources available for that round shall be allocated by processing the applications in the order in which they are received, within the framework of a balanced distribution as referred to in Article 8, third paragraph, letter d of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Grants) Decree. If the ceiling risks being exceeded due to applications that are received simultaneously, the order in which applications are processed shall be determined by lot.

B

At the end of section III.1.7. **Size of the subsidy**, a paragraph shall be added which reads as follows:

Fourth round

Every application must relate either to basic activities or additional activities. The maximum amount that may be obtained for each of the types of eligible activities is €150,000 in allocation per international Responsible Business Conduct agreement for the remaining programme period of 12 months. The subsidy is to be applied for per type of activity separately.

The total maximum amount of subsidy per type of activity is €150,000. This amount is based on the maximum remaining term of one year for new activities, in connection with the end date set in paragraph III.1.6 for activities to be subsidised within the framework of the second pillar. If the remaining term is less than one year, the maximum amount of the subsidy shall be determined in proportion to the number of months in which the activities covered by the subsidy application are to be carried out.

As regards supplementary subsidies, if an applicant submits its application before 1 May 2022 while already having received a subsidy for previous years, the subsidy for 2022 can still be €150,000.

C

Section III.4.2. **Allocation of available resources** shall read as follows:

For every round in the second pillar, the resources available for that round shall be allocated by processing the applications in the order in which they are received, within the framework of a balanced distribution as referred to in Article 8, third paragraph, letter d of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Grants) Decree. If the ceiling risks being exceeded due to applications that are received simultaneously, the order in which applications are processed shall be determined by lot.

#### **Article 4**

This Decree will enter into force on the day after the date of the Government Gazette in which it is published and will expire with effect from 1 January 2023, with the proviso that it will continue to apply to subsidies awarded prior to that date.

This Order will be published in the Government Gazette.

*The Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation,  
on whose behalf,  
Director-General for International Cooperation,  
K. van der Heijden*

*Director-General for Foreign Economic Relations,  
H. Schuiling*