

## JOINT MONITORING COMMITTEE

under INTERREG-IPA CBC Bulgaria – Turkey Programme,

CCI No 2014TC16I5CB005

Written procedure No. 43, initiated on 11 November 2020

- 1. Description:** The Written Procedure in accordance with Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the JMC of the INTERREG-IPA CBC Bulgaria – Turkey Programme for approval of request for contract modification of project "The European approach to Preventing Fires in the Cross-Border Region - Prevent Fires" with reference number CB005.2.11.067, Subsidy contract RD-02-29-193/23.07.2019 and project "TRIP - Tourism & Religion- Integrated People" with reference number CB005.2.23.056, subsidy contract RD-02-29-298/31.12.2019 was initiated by the Managing Authority – Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria on 11 November 2020.

The official letter No. 99-00-2-312/11.11.2020 and the attachments: Request for modification of project with reference number CB005.2.11.067 and Request for modification of project with reference number CB005.2.23.056 were sent to the JMC members via e-mail and made available in the JMC section of the Management Information System.

The request for modification of project "The European approach to Preventing Fires in the Cross-Border Region - Prevent Fires" with reference number CB005.2.11.067, Subsidy contract RD-02-29-193/23.07.2019 concerns extension of the project implementation period from 18 to 24 months. On one hand the request for contract modification is justified with the current situation in both countries related to the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and the taken quarantine measures by the governments which lead to postponing of the joint international events part of the following activities – Activity 2 "Establishment of a system for early warning and disaster notification in the Bulgarian part of Strandzha - on the territory of Tsarevo, Ahtopol, and Lozenets"; Activity 4 "Enhancing the capacity of local institutions and experts to work on both sides of the border in a situation of cross-border disaster" – the joint simulation fire-extinguishing operation in Tsarevo; Activity 5 "Increasing the level of coordination between the competent institutions, structures and teams on both sides of the border" – a two-day event in Kırklareli, which will present the capacity of both teams to work under a single monitoring centre and Activity 6 "Communication and awareness

of project activities and results” – final conference in Vize. On the other hand the situation with COVID-19 lead to delay in timely supply of the equipment under the project and the sub-contractors need more time to deliver the vehicles, envisaged to be used in the joint events.

The request for modification of project “TRIP - Tourism & Religion-Integrated People” with reference number CB005.2.23.056, Subsidy contract RD-02-29-298/31.12.2019 concerns extension of the project implementation period from 12 to 15 months. The modification is justified with the COVID-19 pandemic situation and the restrictive measures applied in Republic of Bulgaria and Republic of Turkey since the end of October which lead to impossibility to implement the international events and more specifically following activities under the project: Activity 4 „Public initiative to set up a network for public awareness activities, promoting sustainable use of historical and cultural heritage and resources in the area of religion and their development in tourist attractions“; Activity 5 „A public awareness Initiative in Bulgaria promoting the sustainable use of the historical and cultural heritage and resources in the field of religions in the cross-border region“; Activity 7 „Awareness-raising initiative in Turkey to promote the sustainable use of the historical and cultural heritage and resources in the area of religions and religious denominations in the cross-border region“ and Activity 8 „Initiative for public awareness in the form of a joint international conference: “Opinions and ideas for promoting the sustainable use of the historical heritage and resources in the area of religions”.

The JMC members were given 3 (three) working days to send their approval or comments on the modification requests.

No comments were received from the JMC Members from both sides within the set deadline and therefore according to the Rules of procedure of the JMC the requested extensions of project implementation periods projects: “The European approach to Preventing Fires in the Cross-Border Region - Prevent Fires” with reference number CB005.2.11.067, and “TRIP - Tourism & Religion- Integrated People” with reference number CB005.2.23.056 are deemed approved.

## 2. Decisions:

1. JMC approves the extension of project implementation period of the project “The European approach to Preventing Fires in the Cross-Border Region - Prevent Fires” with reference number CB005.2.11.067, Subsidy contract RD-02-29-193/23.07.2019 with 6 (months) months – from 18 (eighteen) months to 24 (twenty four) months;
2. JMC approves the extension of implementation period of project “TRIP - Tourism & Religion- Integrated People” with reference number

CB005.2.23.056, Subsidy contract RD-02-29-299/31.12.2019 with 3 (three) months - from 12 (twelve) to 15 (fifteen) months.

The hereby decisions enter into force on the 17 November 2020, the date following the deadline for submission of comments / objections / additional proposals from the JMC members.

- 3. Attachments:**
1. Attachment 1: Letter No. 99-00-2-312\_11.11.2020 from the Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works - Co-chairperson of the JMC for written procedure for approval of request for contract modification of projects CB005.2.11.067 and CB005.2.23.056;
  2. Attachment 2: Request for modification of project CB005.2.11.067;
  3. Attachment 3: Request for modification of project CB005.2.23.056;
  4. Attachment 4: "Table of the comments received by JMC members".

Signatures:

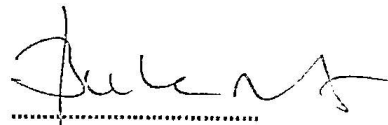
for BULGARIA:



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Ms. Denitsa NIKOLOVA

*Deputy Minister of  
Regional Development and Public Works,  
Co-chairperson of the JMC*

for TURKEY:



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Mr. Bülent Özcan

*Acting Director-General to the Directorate  
General of the Financial Cooperation and  
Project Implementation, Directorate for  
European Union Affairs,  
Head of National Authority,  
Co-Chairperson of the JMC*