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► B**COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2020/1351****of 25 September 2020****granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic of Latvia to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak**

(OJ L 314, 29.9.2020, p. 38)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
► <u>M1</u>	Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/677 of 23 April 2021	L 144	7	27.4.2021
► <u>M2</u>	Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2283 of 21 November 2022	L 301	119	22.11.2022

▼ B**COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2020/1351****of 25 September 2020****granting temporary support under Regulation (EU) 2020/672 to the Republic of Latvia to mitigate unemployment risks in the emergency following the COVID-19 outbreak***Article 1*

Latvia fulfils the conditions set out in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2020/672.

*Article 2***▼ M2**

1. The Union shall make available to Latvia a loan amounting to a maximum of EUR 472 807 000. The loan shall have a maximum average maturity of 15 years.

2. The availability period for financial assistance granted by this Decision shall be 39 months starting from the first day after this Decision has taken effect.

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3. The Union financial assistance shall be made available by the Commission to Latvia in a maximum of eight instalments. An instalment may be disbursed in one or several tranches. The maturities of the tranches under the first instalment may be longer than the maximum average maturity referred to in paragraph 1. In such cases, the maturities of further tranches shall be set so that the maximum average maturity referred to in paragraph 1 is respected once all instalments have been disbursed.

▼ M2

4. The first instalment shall be released subject to the entry into force of the loan agreement provided for in Article 8(2) of Regulation (EU) 2020/672. Any further instalments shall be released in accordance with the terms of that loan agreement or, where relevant, be subject to the entry into force of an addendum thereto, or of an amended loan agreement concluded between Latvia and the Commission replacing the original loan agreement.

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5. Latvia shall pay the cost of the funding of the Union referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2020/672 for each instalment plus any fees, costs and expenses of the Union resulting from any funding related to the loan granted under paragraph 1 of this Article.

6. The Commission shall decide on the size and release of instalments, as well as on the size of the tranches.

▼ **M2***Article 3*

Latvia may finance the following measures:

- (a) the scheme for the compensation of idle time for workers, as provided for in ‘Cabinet Regulations No 179 (adopted on 31 March 2020) “Regulations Regarding the Allowance for Idle Time for the Self-employed Persons Affected by the Spread of COVID-19” and No 165 (adopted on 26 March 2020) “Regulations Regarding the Employers Affected by the Crisis Caused by COVID-19 which are Eligible for the Allowance for Idle Time and Division of the Payment for Late Tax Payments in Instalments or Deferral Thereof for up to Three Years”’, as extended and last amended by Amendments to the Cabinet Regulation No 709 ‘Regulations Regarding the Allowance for Idle Time for Taxpayers for the Continuation of their Activity in the Circumstances of the COVID-19 Crisis’ on 19 January 2021, 4 February 2021 and 26 February 2021;
- (b) the downtime allowance, as provided for on the basis of ‘Cabinet Regulation No 236 (adopted on 23 April 2020) “Regulations Regarding the Assistance Allowance for Idle Time for Employed or Self-employed Persons who have been Affected by the Spread of COVID-19”’;
- (c) the workers’ bonus for children, as provided for in ‘Cabinet Order No 178 of 16 April 2020 “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””, as extended;
- (d) the scheme for wage subsidies for the tourism and export industries, as provided for in ‘Information report on measures to overcome the COVID-19 crisis and economic recovery’, as extended and last amended by Amendments to the Cabinet Regulation No 675 on ‘Regulations Regarding the Provision of Aid to Taxpayers for the Continuation of their Activity in the Circumstances of the COVID-19 Crisis’ on 1 April 2021, 26 October 2021, 9 November 2021, 30 November 2021, 7 December 2021, 23 December 2021 and 11 January 2022;
- (e) wage support payments for medical professionals and those employed by the cultural industry, as provided for in the ‘Law On Measures for the Prevention and Suppression of Threat to the State and Its Consequences Due to the Spread of COVID-19’, the ‘Law on the Suppression of Consequences of the Spread of COVID-19 Infection’ and ‘Cabinet Order No 303 of 3 June 2020 “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””, respectively;
- (f) health-related expenditure on protective personal equipment, as provided for in ‘Cabinet Orders No 79 of 3 March 2020, No 118 of 20 March 2020 and No 220 of 27 April 2020, “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””, ‘Cabinet Regulation No 380 of 9 June 2020 “Regulations on the Resources for Ensuring Epidemiological Safety Necessary for Institutions Included in the List of Priority Institutions and Needs”’;

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- (g) COVID-19 related sickness benefits, as provided for in the ‘Amendment to the Law “On Maternity and Sickness Insurance”’(adopted on 20 March 2020), as extended and last amended by the Amendments to the Law ‘On Maternity and Sickness Insurance’ on 4 November 2021 and 13 January 2022;
- (h) sickness aid benefits for parents and caretakers, as provided for in the ‘Amendment to the Law “On Maternity and Sickness Insurance”’(Sections 48 and 49 of transitional provisions), adopted on 26 November 2020, ‘Cabinet Order No 707 of 1 December 2020 “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””’and ‘Cabinet Order No 13 of 11 January 2021 “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””’;
- (i) premiums for medical practitioners and employees dealing with the COVID-19 crisis, as provided for in ‘Cabinet Order No 136 Adopted on 27 March 2020 “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””’, ‘Cabinet Order No 656 Adopted on 6 November 2020 “Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””’, ‘Cabinet Order No 743 of 8 December 2020 “Amendment to Cabinet Order No 655 of 6 November 2020 “On Declaring a State of Emergency””’and ‘Cabinet Order No 37 Adopted on 21 January 2021 Regarding the Allocation of Funds from the State Budget Programme “Funds for Unforeseen Events””’.

▼ M1*Article 4*

1. Latvia shall inform the Commission by 30 March 2021, and every six months thereafter, of the implementation of the planned public expenditure until that planned public expenditure has been fully implemented.
2. Where measures referred to in Article 3 are based on planned public expenditure and have been subject to an implementing decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1351, Latvia shall inform the Commission within six months after the date of adoption of that amending implementing decision, and every six months thereafter, of the implementation of the planned public expenditure until that planned public expenditure has been fully implemented.

▼ B*Article 5*

This Decision is addressed to the Republic of Latvia.

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its notification to the addressee.

Article 6

This Decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.