

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002508/24
to the Commission
Michalis Hadjipantela (PPE)
(13 November 2024)**

Subject: Timely implementation of Cyprus's recovery and resilience plan

Cyprus was one of the first Member States to have its national recovery and resilience plan approved, and it has made significant progress in implementing it. However, recent reports highlight difficulties in implementing milestones and targets, and resultant delays in fund absorption. Concerns centre on balancing the high administrative burden, including the successful completion of 151 milestones and 131 targets, with the country's limited administrative capacity. Given that less than 20% of the funds have been received to date, we remain concerned about Cyprus's ability to effectively implement the planned milestones and targets and absorb the remaining funds allocated to Cyprus, by the end of the eligibility period, in 2026.

Could the Commission clarify the following:

How does the Commission plan to support Cyprus to ensure the timely implementation of its national recovery and resilience plan, and what specific measures will be taken to address any potential delays in the absorption of Recovery and Resilience Facility funds, particularly concerning the green and digital transition?

Submitted: 13.11.2024

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(31 January 2025)**

The Commission and the Cypriot authorities are actively engaged in a constructive dialogue to facilitate the implementation of the ambitious Cypriot Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP).

RRPs implementation slowed down in 2023 due to the need to divert administrative capacity to address recent crises — including Russia's war against Ukraine, the related efforts to revise the RRP to include the REPowerEU chapters, as well as the impact of supply disruptions, among others. Still, RRP implementation on the ground have continued to move ahead.

On 16 September 2024, the Commission finalised the positive assessment of the second payment request under the Cypriot RRP, bundling together the second and third instalments of the non-repayable support.

Subsequently, the Commission authorised the disbursement of the related financial support ⁽¹⁾, including the partial suspension related to the Commission assessment on the fulfilment of a milestone ⁽²⁾. This leads the total amount of resources disbursed to more than 27% of the total plan allocation.

The Commission is also currently assessing the third payment request submitted by Cyprus on 3 July 2024, related to the fourth instalment of the non-repayable support. Another payment request related to the fifth instalment of the non-repayable support was submitted by Cyprus on 18 December 2024.

The Commission remains committed to assisting and supporting the Cypriot authorities in the implementation of the RRP also considering the latest guidance on RRP ⁽³⁾.

The targeted revision of the Cypriot RRP adopted in July 2024 ⁽⁴⁾ to cater for technical adjustments related to the assessment of the second payment request is a good example of the cooperation between the Cypriot authorities and the Commission.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/2cd56c2e-67d7-4124-a5ac-52bbac3920e0_en?filename=C_2024_8043_1_EN_ACT_part1_v2.pdf
⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/331d5782-ecbc-4403-8f1a-1694fb53c0ca_en?filename=C_2024_8046_1_EN_ACT_part1_v3.pdf
⁽³⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/3a3d5707-5adc-4f6a-a5b5-1d23f1a24235_en?filename=OJ_C_202404618_EN_TXT.pdf
⁽⁴⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CONSIL:ST_11806_2024_INIT