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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.8.2026)

1. Member States are responsible for designing their National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPPs) and for setting up their governance arrangements in line with their administrative, institutional and legal framework. As set out in Article 6 of the Commission's proposal[1], NRPPs must be prepared and implemented in partnership with regional, local, urban, rural authorities and stakeholders in accordance with the multi-level governance principle and a bottom-up approach. The proposal enables regional chapters as part of the NRPPs. The Commission's President proposed in November 2025 additional clarifications to reinforce the role of regions in the design, implementation and evaluation of the Plans, including safeguards to prevent significant decrease in allocations to transition and more developed regions (unless justified based on objective criteria). The governance model for the NRPPs can be built on the existing implementation structures.

2. After the Member State's submission of a NRPP, the Commission will need to assess whether the Plan complies with all applicable requirements, notably Article 22 of the proposal, including how the partnership principle in the preparation and implementation of the Plan is respected, and compliance with the European code of conduct on partnership. As part of its assessment, the Commission may make observations to Member States and request additional information.

[1] COM(2025) 565 final/2 : https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0565R%2801%29.