Dear [Name]

According to Article 35(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 the Commission received on 20 February 2024 the annual performance report from Italy under its Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund programme for the accounting year covering the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023.

Following the assessment of the report, no formal resubmission is requested. We would, however, like to make some observations in accordance with Article 35(3) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 that should guide the preparation of the next year’s Annual Performance Report.

Yours sincerely,

[Name]

Head of Unit

Enclosure: Annex – Observations for the preparation of the next AMIF Annual Performance Report

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Annex – Observations for the preparation of the next AMIF Annual Performance Report (APR)

We would like to draw your attention to the background note of the Webinar of 18 December 2023 on the annual performance report for the AMIF, BMVI, and ISF Home Affairs Programmes 2021-2027 (Ref. HOME-Funds/2024/01) that can offer guidance on the necessary information to be included in the specific sections of the next report.

Section 1.1. Progress in implementation:

The aim of the section 1.1. is to capture your assessment on how the AMIF programme is progressing towards the achievement of its objectives. In providing such analysis in your APR for the next accounting period, you are requested to consider the following aspects:

- Develop a narrative that moves from the needs, indicative actions and desired results described in your programme and that clarifies what is the progress compared to such plans (1). Please note that the related granularity is by specific objective.
- Provide an analysis of progress towards the achievement of the milestones and targets, with your insights and assessment into what is progressing better or where challenges are noted.
- If relevant, building a narrative on the progress towards the specific objectives, report on any significant programme specific indicator you opted to include in your programmes.

The above elements will help you to describe the progress in implementation compared with the baseline situation. On the other hand, you are kindly requested to note that the following data are not considered as worth including in this section:

- Detailed lists or flat descriptions for activities carried out which can be found elsewhere (e.g., in the list of operations or list of call for proposal published by you on the relevant Ministry’s website, their financial value, details on the start-end date or coding system). This is the information that does not help appraise how well the programme is progressing towards its milestones and targets.

With regard to the calls described by you in this section, you are requested to provide a more evaluative assessment e.g., whether the response to these calls was satisfactory, or if the quality of applications was high. The above information will help you to describe the implementation of the programme and judge if it is on track or if there are some notable differences between Specific Objectives, calls or target groups.

As regards the partnership principle, you are kindly requested to continue describing the developments in the implementation of the partnership, e.g. the formation and consultation of expert groups in calls for proposals or use of technical assistance to support the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the partners.

(1) See FAQ 765 - Annual Performance Reports- Indicative Actions
Section 1.6 Resettlement and relocation – Article 35(2)(g) and (h) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147

When reporting in this section in the future APRs, you are reminded that only relocations financed through AMIF, if any in the future, should be reported and you are kindly requested to specify in case of statements such as “during the reporting period, no transfer of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection to another MS was carried out” that “no transfers were financed through the AMIF programme”.

Section 3 Implementation of Union acquis, cooperation and solidarity – Article 35(2), point (d), of Regulation (EU) 2021/1147

The Commission services have noted that the interventions were aligned with Union acquis and relevant action plans and strategies. In the future APRs, please consider that it is a good practice to highlight the EU added value of the activities carried out.

Section 4 Communication and visibility

When reporting in this section in the next APR, you are requested to consider providing the following information:

- Assess the progress towards the targets included in the communication plan and describe what is going well or what could be improved.

Section 5 Compliance with enabling conditions and horizontal principles

5.1 Enabling conditions

In the next year’s APR, you are encouraged to continue reporting on specific examples of the development and usage of arrangements to ensure compliance with the enabling conditions.

5.2 Horizontal principles

In the next year’s APR, you are encouraged to continue reporting on the measures taken to promote gender equality and gender mainstreaming or measures that take into account and prevent discrimination on all grounds. Concrete examples may include the adoption of guidelines, organising seminars, creating expert groups, etc.

Section 6 Project in relation to/in third countries

In line with the guidance, this section should include complementary information related to the implementation of projects in relation to/in third countries (for example, the ones that have undergone the ex-ante consultation process with the Commission).

As regards information on resettlement, humanitarian admission and relocation, this is to be included under Section 1.1, if the info concerns the progress of the actions, or Section 1.6, if it concerns data based on the values declared in the accounts.

Section 7 Summary

For the next year’s APR, you are encouraged to continue including relevant information in the summary section in line with the guidance provided for the section 1.1 Progress in implementation.
It is noted that in section 1.1 and 6 (Summary), the MA reports that “a large number of selection acts (11 public notices totalling around EUR 218 million) were adopted”. However, in section 1.2 (performance issues) the MA reports that “between April 2023 and June 2023, 10 public notices were adopted, committing a total of EUR 174 million”.

Therefore, as this part will be publicly available, you are kindly invited to ensure consistency of information presented across all sections. Coherence throughout the report is essential to uphold clarity in conveying progress and actions undertaken.