1. According to the latest information\(^1\), 73% of the amounts under the 2014-2020 cohesion policy operational programmes have been executed by end-March 2022.

The Commission is closely following the implementation of the 2014-2020 period in Portugal. Considering the level of commitments of the different Operational Programmes, the Commission expects that the remaining amount will have been totally invested by the end of the programming period.

2. The Commission has already made several legislative proposals to address difficulties resulting from the COVID-19 crisis and the consequences of the war in Ukraine. The measures include flexibility for cross-financing, higher co-financing and pre-financing rates, enhanced flexibility for closure and simplified cost options for support for refugees\(^2\). Additional measures are being considered to provide direct and continuous support to Member States facing implementation difficulties.

As far as the period 2021-2027 for Portugal is concerned, the Commission would like to inform the Honourable Member that the future programmes are under negotiation.

3. Through the Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE)\(^3\), Member States have the possibility to extend the co-financing rate of 100%, previously granted under the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative (CRII)\(^4\), for another year. Moreover, the EUR 50.5 billion top-up from REACT-EU also allows 100% EU financing.

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\(^2\) For details, see: Commission notice - Guidelines on the closure of operational programmes adopted for assistance from the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014-2020) 2021/C 417/01.
