

## 4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1 Financing Agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not envisaged to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

### 4.2 Indicative Implementation Period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 3 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 60 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Financing Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

### 4.3 Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures.

#### 4.3.1 Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

This Action may be implemented in indirect management with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The implementation by this entity entails the entire Action as described in the Action Document, although a significant portion of SO2 (holistic support to victims and civil society organisations) will be sub-contracted through grants to civil society organisations.

The selection of this implementing partner is based on the vulnerable political context and lessons learnt from previous interventions in the sector. Since the creation of its country office in 2015, OHCHR was able to position itself as a trusted actor for judicial, legislative and executive institutions, even those coming from across the political spectrum. It has a prominent convening role between key stakeholders, often being the only international partner able to bring state institutions with diverging interests around the same table, including civil society and private sector representatives. OHCHR's credibility with key stakeholders, including state institutions, civil society, donors and other members of the international community has been crucial to promote structural changes to strengthen the rule of law and accountability for serious human rights violations, while in parallel working with victims to increase access to justice. OHCHR has established strategic partnerships at the highest level with the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Supreme Court of Justice. Specifically with the Public Prosecutor's Office, OHCHR signed on 19 May 2021 a Memorandum of Understanding to promote the investigation of human rights violations, including femicides, persecution of human rights defenders, among others, hereby firmly strengthening a cooperation framework that seeks access to justice for victims. OHCHR also played a key role in the drafting, adoption and implementation of a law that introduced a new election model for magistrates to the Supreme Court of Justice to strengthen the judicial independence in Honduras.

The Action is closely linked to the Country Engagement Strategy of OHCHR Honduras. Its expected outcome is to contribute to the respect and guarantee of human rights of the Honduran population by strengthening the rule of law, expanding and promoting civic space and people's participation, promoting development and access to economic, social and cultural rights and combating discrimination against groups in vulnerable situations.

This will allow the Office to keep on applying a strategic approach to dealing with human rights challenges in order to increase impact on the ground. The implementation of the Action will also allow more proactive and strategic engagement with relevant stakeholders, while addressing the emerging human rights concerns and feeding into the Office's priorities for next years. This proposal also fits in the current OHCHR Management Plan. Moreover, the proposal is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation