

**Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision**

23 02 01

Title: Emergency Assistance to the Victims of Hurricane Ivan

Location of operation: CARIBBEAN (Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Amount of Decision: Euro 1,500,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/-CR/BUD/2004/02000

---

**Explanatory Memorandum****1 - Rationale, needs and target population.**1.1. - Rationale:

On 7 September 2004 Hurricane Ivan, one of the most violent hurricanes the Caribbean has ever experienced, passed St. Vincent and Grenadines, before hitting Grenada where it caused widespread devastation damaging the homes, buildings and infrastructure, and causing at least 37 deaths. More than 350 injured people had to be treated in hospitals.

Of the total population of Grenada (95,000) some 60,000 people had lost the roof above the head. Amongst these, approximately 8,000 are currently accommodated in 47 official and in an undetermined number of ad hoc shelters. Many buildings which were designated as official shelters such as schools and churches, had lost their roofs, forcing people to move into sturdier buildings – such as an unfinished shopping plaza – and private homes of relatives and friends. However, there is an even greater number of people who stayed in their homes despite of the fact that the roof of the house had been blown away.

Some 90% of the houses in Grenada sustained damage; water and electricity were cut on the island. The hurricane caused structural damage to nearly every major building in the Grenadian capital of Saint George's, including the island's emergency operations centre, prime minister's residence, most schools, and the main hospital.

The whole population remains in total shock over the magnitude of the disaster, as this is the first hurricane to hit the island in almost 50 years, and authorities struggle to co-ordinate relief efforts.

Communication amongst Grenada's population is still difficult and there is virtually no electrical power as the hurricane has flattened most trees around the island, leaving it totally bare, and brought down almost every single electricity and telephone pylon in most of the 15 districts. The national authorities are having great difficulties managing the situation. Co-ordination is facilitated by CDERA and UN-OCHA. Logistics are further hampered by the fact that the airport has been damaged and warehouse capacities have been destroyed.

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in particular in the southern part of the archipelago, the sustained winds of the hurricane have provoked damages to the infrastructure, although in a more localised manner.

#### 1.2. - Identified needs:

ECHO partners in the field (OCHA, PAHO, UNICEF, Red Cross Movement, and Oxfam GB) are finalising their detailed evaluation. The needs identified so far are the following:

- Water and sanitation due to the destruction and contamination of water distribution systems,
- Temporary shelters,
- Relief items (kitchen, hygiene, cleaning sets),
- Medical aid (drug supplies, psychological support, emergency rehabilitation of health centres),
- Food distributions,
- Satellite telecommunication systems for relief organizations and for the victims of the disaster,
- Humanitarian aid coordination.

#### 1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

It is estimated that at least 8,000 persons have resorted to temporary shelter. They constitute the group in greatest needs. However, persons staying with relatives or who have remained in their damaged houses will also require support. Their number is estimated to be in the ten thousands. Support to health care and surveillance will benefit the whole of the population. Sanitation and water activities will also be extended to St. Vincent islands.

#### 1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

The needs have been assessed by rapid evaluation teams in the field (IFRC, Oxfam-GB, PAHO and CDERA). However, because of the extent of the disaster and the pressure for rapid assessment there is a risk of underestimation of needs at this point in time.

Also, response capacity by the relief agencies currently present is limited which risks leaving needs unmet during the first relief phase.

## **2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed.**

### 2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective:

To save and preserve lives during the emergency caused by Ivan and in its immediate aftermath

Specific objective:

To provide emergency assistance to hurricane victims in the sectors of food, water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and humanitarian co-ordination.

### 2.2. - Components:

- Food distribution
- Hygiene kits distribution
- Kitchen kits distribution
- Temporary shelters
- Primary health
- Psycho-social support
- Emergency telecommunications
- Humanitarian coordination

## **3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision.**

The duration of humanitarian aid operations shall be 6 months from their starting date. Expenditure shall be eligible as from 7 September, 2004.

If the implementation of the actions envisaged in this Decision is suspended due to *force majeure*, or any comparable circumstance, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the action. The procedure established in the Framework Partnership Agreement in this respect will be applied.



**6 - Amount of Decision and distribution of funding by specific objectives:**

Total amount of the Decision: Euro 1,500,000

<b>Principal objective:</b> <i>To save and preserve lives during the emergency caused by Ivan and in its immediate aftermath</i>			
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Allocated amount by specific objective (Euro)</b>	<b>Geographical area of operation</b>	<b>Potential partners<sup>1</sup></b>
Specific objective 1:  To provide emergency assistance to hurricane victims in the sectors of food, water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and humanitarian co-ordination.	1,500,000	Country wide	- CROIX-ROUGE - FICR-IFCR-CH - OXFAM - UK - TSF, FRANCE - UN – PAHO - UNICEF
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>		

**7 –Budget Impact article 23 02 01**

	CE (in Euro)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2004	472.000.000
Supplementary Budgets	
Transfers	
<b>Total Available Appropriations</b>	<b>472.000.000</b>
Total executed to date (by 8.09.2004)	402.780.368
Available remaining	69.219.632
<b>Total amount of the Decision</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, OXFAM (GBR), TELECOMS SANS FRONTIERES, UNITED NATIONS - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION, UNICEF  
ECHO/-CR/BUD/2004/02000

**COMMISSION DECISION****of****on the financing of emergency humanitarian operations from the general budget of the European Union in Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines****THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,**

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,  
Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 13 thereof,

Whereas

- (1) On 7 September 2004 Grenada as well as St. Vincent and the Grenadines were struck by powerful hurricane Ivan causing wide-spread devastation;
- (2) The damage caused in Grenada was overwhelming and severely affected the majority of the country's population;
- (3) In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines damage was more localised with the southern part of the St. Vincent Archipelago sustaining substantial damages by the hurricane;
- (4) Some 60,000 persons are estimated to be in need of assistance of which some 8,000 persons are currently in public shelter;
- (5) Humanitarian aid operations financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 6 months.
- (6) It is estimated that an amount of 1,500,000 Euro from budget line 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations affected by Ivan taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

***Article 1***

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of 1,500,000 Euro for emergency humanitarian aid operations to provide the necessary assistance and relief to people in Grenada and in St. Vincent and the Grenadines by using line 23 02 01 of the 2004 budget of the European Union.
2. In accordance with Article 2 (a) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective:

---

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6  
[ECHO/CR/BUD/2004/02000](#)

- To provide emergency assistance to hurricane victims in the sectors of food, water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and humanitarian co-ordination.

*Article 2*

1. The implementation of humanitarian aid operations funded by this Decision shall have a maximum duration of 6 months from their starting date. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 7 September, 2004.
2. If the operations envisaged in this Decision are suspended owing to *force majeure* or comparable circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission*

*Member of the Commission*

**Annex: Breakdown of allocations by specific objectives**

<b>Principal objective:</b> <i>To save and preserve lives during the emergency caused by Ivan and in its immediate aftermath</i>	
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Allocated amount by specific objective (Euro)</b>
Specific objective:  To provide emergency assistance to hurricane victims in the sectors of food, water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and humanitarian co-ordination.	1,500,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>

Grants for the implementation of humanitarian aid within the meaning of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid are awarded in accordance with the Financial Regulation, in particular Article 110 thereof, and its Implementing Rules in particular Article 168 thereof.<sup>3</sup>

Rate of financing: In accordance with Article 169 of the Financial Regulation, grants for the implementation of this Decision may finance 100% of the costs of an action.

Humanitarian aid operations funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross organisations on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) (in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation) and by United Nations agencies based on the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA). The standards and criteria established in Echo's standard Framework Partnership Agreement to which NGO's and International organisations have to adhere and the procedures and criteria needed to become a partner may be found at

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/partners/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/partners/index_en.htm)

<sup>3</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 16/05/2002 of 25 June 2002, OJ L 248 of 16/09/2002 and No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002, OJ L 357 of 31/12/2002.