



Humanitarian Aid Decision

23 02 01

Title: Humanitarian assistance to the victims of climate hazard

Location of operation: ERITREA

Amount of decision: 1,000,000 euro

Decision reference number: ECHO/ERI/BUD/2004/01000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population:

1.1. - Rationale:

Four successive years of partial or complete rain failure have had a major impact on the food and water supply. Ground water levels have been receding, mortality and morbidity amongst livestock populations has increased, agricultural production has reduced. Further erratic rains this year have compounded this problem and increasingly led to growing pockets of acute emergency needs where populations run out of water or basic food supply.

Rapid emergency assistance is required to secure these basic food and water supplies to save lives, while longer term assistance addresses the underlying chronic problems.

1.2. - Identified needs:

Basic water supply. The successive rain failures mean that the ground water levels have been receding. Thus the quantity and quality of water, particularly in rural areas, is reduced. Poor quality water is leading to higher morbidity, particularly acute malnutrition resulting from diarrhoea. Where wells are drying up, populations are already travelling increasing distances to find water while it is still there to be found. This puts increasing pressure on remaining water sources, with reducing quantities of water per person.

For example, in Afabeet, Sheeb and Ghindae sub-zones of North Red Sea region, CARE report that women and children are walking more than three hours to reach the only available water. The concentrations of populations at these few available water points means over-utilisation resulting in less than 3 litres/person/day. This is compared to the normal level of 10 – 12 litres/person/day. Oxfam reports a similar situation in Mai-Mine, Areza and Adi Quala sub-zones in Debub region.

Livestock. For pastoralist populations, milk from livestock constitutes about 60 % of the adult diet, and about 80 % of the under 18 diet. To maintain this basic life-sustaining supply, and thus avoiding immediate urgent humanitarian consequences, requires ensuring a core minimum of livestock. With the rain failure, pasture and water supply for livestock has reduced, with increasing morbidity and mortality amongst the livestock.

Malnutrition. The international benchmark for humanitarian nutritional interventions is 10 – 15 % Global Acute Malnutrition. In Garsh Barka, traditionally the main food producing area, malnutrition rates already range between 13.7 – 18.2 %, and in Northern Red Sea between 13.7 – 16.4 %, while in Anseba 11.1 – 14.9 %. This is particularly concerning given that this is at the early stage of the May – October traditional ‘hungry season’ before the main harvest. Even given the ongoing food aid response, such high levels of malnutrition quickly become acute emergency needs requiring specialised supplementary and therapeutic feeding – especially where the problem is as much poor water quality as food shortage.

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

The target populations would be over 150,000 people, mainly women and children, largely in the rural areas, notably in Anseba, Gash Barka, Debub, and North and South Red Sea zones.

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

There is a risk of reduced access due to logistic, administrative and security constraints. In-country implementation capacity – for example the availability of drilling rigs for deepening water points – and the rate at which this can be improved through importation of equipment may also serve to constrain the humanitarian response.

2- Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. – Objectives:

Principal objective :

To address acute needs arising from consequences of climatic hazard.

Specific objectives :

To address decline in human health arising from acute shortage of water or basic food supply.

2.2. - Components:

To address the decline in human health arising from acute water shortage will require a combination of water trucking, deepening of existing water sources, and where absolutely necessary the creation of new water sources.

To address decline in human health arising from basic food supply will require targeted supplementary and therapeutic feeding, and veterinary, water and fodder support to ensure core livestock ratios for pastoralists.

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5 - Other donors and donor co-ordination mechanisms

Donors in ERITREA the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria	0	ECHO	0		
Belgium	0	Other services			
Denmark	1,075,992				
Finland	1,300,000				
France	0				
Germany	1,099,629				
Greece	0				
Ireland	300,000				
Italy	0				
Luxembourg	0				
Netherlands	2,714,800				
Portugal	0				
Spain	0				
Sweden	1,073,000				
United Kingdom	0				
Subtotal	7,563,421	Subtotal	0	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	7,563,421		

Dated : 30/07/2004

(*) Source : ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://hac.cec.eu.int>
Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

6 –Amount of decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: 1,000,000 euro

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objective :

Principal objective: <i>To address acute needs arising from consequences of climatic hazard</i>				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (Euro)	Possible geographical area of operation	Activities	Potential partners¹
Specific objective 1: To address decline in human health arising from acute shortage of water or basic food supply.	1,000,000	Anseba, Debub, Gash Barka, North and South Red Sea zones	Water trucking/improve water points; supplementary and therapeutic feeding ; livestock support.	- ACF - FRA - CARE - UK - CESVI - CONCERN WORLDWIDE - COOPI - MSF - NLD - OXFAM - UK
TOTAL	1,000,000			

¹ ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, (FR), ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN (NLD), CARE INTERNATIONAL UK , CESVI cooperazione e sviluppo onlus, CONCERN WORLDWIDE, (IRL), COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE (ITA), OXFAM (GBR)

7 –Evaluation

Under article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid the Commission is required to "regularly assess humanitarian aid operations financed by the Community in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent operations." These evaluations are structured and organised in overarching and cross cutting issues forming part of ECHO's Annual Strategy such as child-related issues, the security of relief workers, respect for human rights, gender. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is established after a consultative process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not foreseen in the initial programme, in response to particular events or changing circumstances. More information can be obtained at:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm.

8 –Budget Impact article 23 02 01

	CE (in Euro)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2004	472.000.000
Supplementary Budgets	-
Transfers	-
Total Available Credits	472.000.000
Total executed to date (by 30/07/2004)	373.280.368
Available remaining	98.719.632
Total amount of the Decision	1,000,000

COMMISSION DECISION

of

**on the financing of humanitarian operations from the general budget of the European Union in
ERITREA**

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 aid², and in particular Article 14 thereof,

Whereas:

- 1) Eritrea has been subject to four years of poor rains resulting in decreasing water availability and reduced food supply.
- 2) Acute humanitarian needs are now arising as a result of severe water shortage, and malnutrition.
- 3) An assessment of the humanitarian situation leads to the conclusion that humanitarian aid operations should be financed by the Community for a period of 12 months.
- (4) It is estimated that an amount of 1,000,000 euro from budget line 23 02 01 of the 2004 general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to over 150,000 victims of climatic hazard, taking into account the available budget, other donors' interventions and other factors.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of 1,000,000 euro for humanitarian aid operations to the victims of climate hazard by using line 23 02 01 of the 2004 budget of the European Union.
2. In accordance with Article 2 (a) of Regulation (EC) No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective :
 - To address decline in human health arising from acute shortage of water or basic food supply.

Article 2

² OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6

1. The duration for the implementation of this decision shall be for a maximum period of 12 months, starting on 12/07/2004. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from that date.
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 implementation of this Decision

Article 3

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

Annex: Breakdown of allocations by specific objective :

Principal objective :To address acute needs arising from consequences of climatic hazard	
Specific objectives	Amount per specific objective (Euro)
To address decline in human health arising from acute shortage of water or basic food supply.	1,000,000
TOTAL	1,000,000

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.³

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

³ 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.