



## **Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision**

23 02 01

Title: Continued emergency assistance to flood victims in Haiti

Location of operation: HAITI

Amount of Decision: Euro 2,500,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/HTI/BUD/2004/06000

---

### **Explanatory Memorandum**

#### **1 - Rationale, needs and target population.**

##### 1.1. - Rationale:

With the passage of Hurricane Jeanne, Haiti's proneness to natural disaster has once more been dramatically highlighted. Although it is the country's geographic location which exposes it to natural hazards such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, landslides, and drought, the vulnerability of its population is only partly the result of this exposure but much more that of poverty, recurrent political and institutional crises and adverse socioeconomic and environmental conditions. It is, in particular, floods which have the most damaging and prolonged effects on people's lives and livelihoods. Less than 6 months ago flash floods in Haiti's south west claimed some 1,500 lives.

After the devastating floods in the north west of Haiti brought about by Tropical Storm Jeanne on 18-19 September 2004, it has become clear that virtually nobody in the Gonaïves area escaped unscathed from the floods. Due to the gravity of the impact in Gonaïves and the insufficient resources at hand, little attention was initially paid to other affected zones. However, the entire area between Gonaïves, Ennery, Port-de-Paix and Anse Rouge has also been affected. The road between Gonaïves and Cap-Haitien, the main road to the north, is partly destroyed. Consequently, the whole northern department has been isolated from the rest of the country.

International relief agencies have reacted with distributions of food and water and the provision of immediate medical attention in spite of a very complex security situation. These efforts to date have been insufficient to meet the immediate needs of the population. There

will also be significant needs for international support in the rehabilitation phase after the immediate humanitarian crisis.

With the aim of mobilizing resources for emergency relief and early recovery needs of the Haitian people affected by the disastrous floods, the UN have issued a Flash Appeal for an amount of USD 32 million. Emergency sectors identified in the appeal are food, health, water/sanitation, agriculture, education, early recovery/shelter and infrastructure, as well as coordination of humanitarian assistance. The appeal not only covers the funding needs of UN agencies but also those of NGOs working in the country.

Furthermore, IFRC issued an appeal for Haiti for an amount of 7.5 meuro.

In a first and quick response to the flood disaster in Haiti the European Commission, through ECHO, provided funding worth €1.5 million. This amount which has been fully earmarked for aid agencies working in the Gonaïves region has proven insufficient given the scale of the short-term needs identified, meanwhile.

## 1.2. - Identified needs:

The floods have had a major impact on the economic infrastructure (roads, bridges and household assets, agriculture) and housing. The most affected area has been the city and immediate surroundings of Gonaïves, where it is estimated that more than 4,000 houses have been washed away or partially destroyed. Some 500 houses have been destroyed and a much higher number has been partially destroyed in Ennery, Gros Morne, Pilate and the North-West of the country. In order to be able to temporarily rebuild their homes families need plastic sheeting. Those families who had their homes completely destroyed require access to temporary shelter until a permanent solution is found. Those whose homes have been partly damaged are in need of materials to make immediate repairs to their homes and properties.

The public health situation is critical as sewers and latrines have been flooded and access to clean water remains difficult. Damage to the power system, interruption of the water supply and heavy contamination of wells, housing and other facilities with mud are likely to increase the risk of increased incidence of the most common diseases, if no measures are taken. The only local hospital in Gonaïves has been severely damaged and the medical equipment destroyed. There is an urgent need to boost the health care capacity in Gonaïves in order to assist an increased number of patients while the local hospital and health facilities are rehabilitated. In the country side, there is no access to basic health services because of the system's collapse or the high cost of private health care.

The rains caused by Hurricane Jeanne have provoked the quasi-total loss of all agricultural production areas and livestock in the northern Artibonite Region as well as the eastern section of the North Western Department. The total area of the damaged plains is estimated at 6,500 hectares.

Given the magnitude of the disaster and also the fact that a great number of humanitarian agencies have started to work on the scene humanitarian co-ordination is critical. To ensure that the UN country team can fulfill this important role in supporting the Government's relief and recovery efforts, additional capacity is required in the short term to support monitoring, reporting and analysis of the efforts of the aid community to respond to the floods.

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

**Water and Sanitation:** Water distribution and latrines rehabilitation will cover up to 80,000 persons in Gonaives; in Ennery some 15,000 persons will benefit from an emergency rehabilitation of the water system.

**Health:** At least, 150,000 persons will have access to health services in the Artibonite region and the North West Department.

**Agriculture recovery:** 60,000 persons in the Artibonite region and the North West Department provinces will benefit from agricultural reactivation.

**Food distribution:** 180,000 in Gonaives will receive a food complement with a full logistic support for the implementing agencies.

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

Security remains precarious, making the distribution of aid difficult. Maintenance of public order lies with the Haitian authorities who do not have the means to enforce law and order. MINUSTAH (United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti) has been mandated to help the Haitian authorities in this task which means that the MINUSTAH is directly involved in helping to provide a minimum of security for the public. This includes being present during distributions of relief goods so as to ensure that distributions take place in the best possible conditions for everyone involved. However, the additional challenges posed on MINUSTAH by the floods have also strained their capacity to the limit.

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

### 2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective :

To enable vulnerable populations to cope with the effects of flooding

Specific objectives :

To cover emergency needs of flood victims in the sectors of water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and agricultural recovery

### 2.2. - Components:

**Water:** Water distribution and sanitation will be reinforced in Gonaives with a small component of health education. Emergency rehabilitation of rural water supply systems will be implemented.

**Sanitation:** Cleaning campaigns and latrine reconstruction.

**Health:** Free access to health services will be expanded to some remote rural areas, with nutritional support, if necessary.

**Agriculture recovery:** Tools and seeds will be distributed, as well as poultry.



## 5 - Other donors and donor co-ordination mechanisms.

Donors in HAITI the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria	0	ECHO	9,249,592		
Belgium	500,000	Other services			
Denmark	0				
Finland	200,000				
France	3,502,140				
Germany	1,825,620				
Greece	0				
Ireland	500,000				
Italy	0				
Luxembourg	0				
Netherlands	907,397				
Portugal	0				
Spain	600,000				
Sweden	536,060				
United Kingdom	3,807,057				
Subtotal	12,394,274	Subtotal	9,249,592	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	21,643,866		

Dated : 12/10/2004

(\*) 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 of funding by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the Decision: Euro 2,500,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

<b>Principal objective:</b> <i>To enable vulnerable populations to cope with the effects of flooding</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 cover emergency needs of flood victims in the sectors of water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and agricultural recovery	2,500,000	Gonaives and north western part of Haiti	- ACF - FRA - CARE - FR - MSF - FRA - ID - FR - MSF - BE -GAA - DE
TOTAL:2,500,000			

<sup>1</sup> ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, (FR), CARE FRANCE, (FR), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (F et B), INITIATIVE DEVELOPPEMENT (F), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (B), ACTION AGRO ALLEMANDE (DE)

**7 –Budget Impact article 23 02 01**

	CE (in Euro)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2004	472 000 000
Supplementary Budgets	- 3 700 000
Transfers	-
<b>Total Available Credits</b>	<b>468 300 000</b>
Total executed to date (by 14.10.2004)	431 699 840
Available remaining	36 600 160
<b>Total amount of the Decision</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>

## COMMISSION DECISION

of

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

**in Haiti**

### **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) Following the passage of tropical storm 'Jeanne' Haiti was hit by torrential rains resulting in devastating floods affecting the north western part of the country.
- (2) Some 2,000 persons have lost their lives and tens of thousands are without accommodation.
- (3) It is estimated that some 200,000 persons are in urgent need of food, health services, water, shelter and non-food relief items.
- (4) It is estimated that an amount of 2,500,000 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 flooding 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 2,500,000 Euro for emergency humanitarian aid operations to provide the necessary assistance and relief to people in Haiti 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:
  - To cover emergency needs of flood victims in the sectors of water, shelter, sanitation, health, non-food items and agricultural recovery

---

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6  
[ECHO/HTI/BUD/2004/06000](#)

## *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 20 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*