



## **Humanitarian Aid Decision**

F9 (FED 9)

Title: Humanitarian assistance to the victims of conflict in Sudan

Location of operation: SUDAN

Amount of decision: 5,000,000 euro

Decision reference number: ECHO/SDN/EDF/2004/01000

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### **Explanatory Memorandum**

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

##### **1.1. - Rationale:**

The main area of humanitarian needs and primary concern is the crisis in Darfur, however other areas of Sudan are subject to humanitarian needs arising from ongoing conflict and natural disaster. Should needs in other areas be judged to be as acute as those in Darfur then assistance for these areas would also be considered.

In the Greater Darfur Region of western Sudan, since late 2002 the security situation has been steadily deteriorating and basically evolved from pocketed and relatively traditional tribal clashes and banditry into a more widespread situation of general insecurity affecting large segments of the population<sup>1</sup> in this vast and inhospitable region which has approximately the size of France. This development took place against a backdrop of desertification, increased competition between sedentary farming communities and nomadic groups over diminishing natural resources, political and socio-economic marginalization, in combination with a breakdown of traditional conflict resolution mechanisms and proliferation of regional small arms trade.

Open warfare erupted in Darfur in early 2003, when the newly emerged Sudan Liberation Movement / Army (SLM/A) attacked Government of Sudan (GOS) forces. Not much later, another armed political group, the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), came to the forefront. Both groups stand for similar demands, i.a. an end to the region's marginalization, as well as improved protection for their communities from attacks by Arab nomadic groups.

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<sup>1</sup> Population estimates range from 6.5 – 7.7 million inhabitants, divided over more than 60 different ethnic groups.

A further dimension was added to the conflict during the latter part of 2003 when militia groups known as ‘Arab militia’ or *Janjaweed*<sup>2</sup> were mobilised and started a wide spread campaign involving attacks on civilians and destruction of essential infrastructure (e.g. irrigation channels, water sources) and large scale looting of private household assets, as well as essential livestock and seed stocks (i.e. coping mechanisms) of indigenous communities of primarily non-Arab origin<sup>3</sup>. The international community has over the past year on many occasions urged the GOS to protect the civilian population against the *Janjaweed* attacks.

Escalation of *Janjaweed* attacks and fighting between the GOS and the armed opposition led, especially since mid-December 2003 when ceasefire talks between the GOS and the rebel groups collapsed, to massive displacement among civilian populations.

According to the United Nations (UN)<sup>4</sup> and other sources, the impact of the conflict on civilians can be summarized as follows:

- It is clear that the conflict’s related insecurity has affected most of the inhabited areas of Darfur;
- The conflict-affected population is estimated now at up to million people (including 1,050,506 internally displaced, and 209,915 vulnerable host communities);
- The majority of the affected population are internally displaced (IDPs) primarily of non-Arab origin;
- Hundreds of towns, villages and other settlements have been burnt, looted and depopulated;
- More than 190,000 Sudanese refugees have fled into Chad<sup>5</sup>;
- Estimates of numbers of deaths related to the conflict vary from between 15,000 and 50,000.

Whilst the above facts led to the classification of Darfur as the largest newly emerged humanitarian crisis in the world, the humanitarian response remains well below what is needed. While continued violence and logistical constraints remain, the intense international pressure (see below) is producing progress in removing administrative constraints, and thus increasing access and implementation/absorption capacity.

A cease-fire and humanitarian access agreement for Darfur was signed in N’ djamena (Chad) on April 8 2004, under Chadian and the African Union (AU) mediation. The negotiations were facilitated and observed by the EU and the US. The 45-days renewable cease-fire entered into force on April 12 2004. The agreement, besides the cease-fire, also includes provisions for fast and unrestricted humanitarian access and facilitation of delivery of humanitarian assistance in accordance with the most relevant basic principles of Public International Law and Humanitarian Law. Although hostilities have decreased since the signature of the agreement, there is a continued sense of insecurity and fear apparent throughout the war-affected communities. The conflict has also spilled over into Chad. In that respect, the parties agreed on May 28 2004 on a Joint Commission and a Cease-Fire Commission lead by the AU and with representation of the EU and the US in order to

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2 *Janjaweed* can be translated as ‘armed horsemen’.

3 This included, according to human rights reports and accounts from affected communities, systematic rape of women and specific targeting of middle-aged men.

4 i.a. Darfur Humanitarian Profile (UN, June 2004) and 90-Day Humanitarian Action Plan for Darfur (UN, 28 June 2004).

5 According to a recent ECHO field assessment.

monitor the cease-fire. The EU has mobilised €12 million from the Peace Facility to support this monitoring operation.

Following the visit to Sudan by the UN Secretary General, a joint UN-GOS communiqué was issued on 3 July. This resulted in agreement on the establishment of a Joint Implementation Mechanism which included commitments, with benchmarks, by the GOS to address – in addition to protection and human rights – humanitarian issues, notably :

- Suspension of visa restrictions, and the free movement of aid workers in Darfur
- Facilitation of NGO registration
- Suspension of all restrictions on the importation of humanitarian aid materials

This was strongly supported by EU Ministers at General Affairs and External Relations Council meetings of 12<sup>th</sup> and 26th July 2004, including calls on GOS to guarantee that humanitarian organisations could perform their work in secure conditions, and on the EU to increase humanitarian support.

UNOCHA report significant progress throughout July on these humanitarian access issues.

#### 1.2. - Identified needs:

While Darfur is clearly the focus - especially as greater access is likely to reveal the greater extent of the needs there - the extent if not the scale of needs in other areas should not be overlooked. For example, to compare with the Darfur figures below, the rates of malnutrition currently north of Bor (Duk County) are 22% Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM), 4.5% Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and rising. These compare with international benchmarks for emergency intervention of 15 % GAM and 2 % SAM.

For Darfur, according to the latest available UN Darfur Humanitarian Needs Profile (July 2004), the extent of coverage in service delivery in key humanitarian sectors (in those areas that are accessible and could be assessed) are as follows:

- Food : 52 %
- Shelter/essential relief items : 54 %
- Clean water : 38 %
- Sanitation : 13 %
- Primary health care : 37 %

As can be seen from this overview the majority of affected communities are not receiving a minimum package of basic humanitarian services. It should further be noted that time is essential as we are entering into the pre-harvest hunger gap season, coping mechanisms are getting further strained, and seasonal rains will have an impact on affected communities (e.g. due to lack of shelter but also the risk of malaria outbreaks) and assistance actors (reduced accessibility).

#### Food/nutrition

The main cause of death, other than violence, in Darfur is malnutrition at 47 %, from an estimated 3% severe acute malnutrition. While WFP are increasing their coverage, the onset of the hungry season, combined with increased logistic challenges with the rainy season now started, make this a major area of humanitarian concern.

The food security situation is further impacted by the limited access to arable land in some areas. In addition, the limited stocks of appropriate drought-resistant seeds may drive subsistence farmers to plant inappropriate varieties of sorghum or millet or to use low quality material for sowing, resulting in even more distress in 2005.

With regards to livestock, many displaced households have lost their assets (cattle, sheep and goats) through looting or crash-selling. In addition, donkeys and camels, which are used as pack, transport and traction animals (one of the main assets of poor people) have migrated along with the displaced populations. The animals lack water, fodder and veterinary assistance.

In sum, most of the affected communities had already few or completely strained coping mechanisms prior to the current crisis, thus making it impossible to absorb a shock of the magnitude of the current complex emergency without massive and immediate external assistance.

#### Protection / Care for Especially Vulnerable Groups

Protection and security remain the foremost concern and priority of most IDPs and humanitarian agencies. If allowed, IDPs continue to move within the region to safer places following attacks on their current places of refuge. Human rights abuses are still being reported from the IDP communities and other war-affected people. The displaced are concentrated in areas from which, if they dare to venture, they will often be target for *Janjaweed* attacks, especially when IDPs leave the village to collect firewood, fodder, and food.

The main protection concerns are:

- Threats to life
- Freedom of movement
- Forced relocation
- Forced return
- Sexual violence
- Restricted access to humanitarian assistance, social services, sources of livelihood, and basic services.

Attention also needs to be given to the special needs of certain extra-vulnerable groups, such as the victims of rape and other forms of (sexual) violence, traumatised persons, separated children, and child soldiers.

#### Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

A key challenge is to rapidly mobilise significant inputs to address the shelter and household needs of the war-affected population of the three Darfur States. The shelter options in spontaneous settlements throughout Darfur provide insufficient protection from the weather conditions and the desert environment with its extreme temperatures. As can be seen from the

table above, shelter provision to date remains inadequate, especially with the rainy season having started in mid-June.

### Water and Environmental Sanitation (WES)

Provision of clean water at 38 %, and sanitation at 13 % are particularly weak. With the rainy season there is the additional concern of crowded and unsanitary displacement sites being transformed into breeding grounds for communicable diseases such as watery diarrhea, measles, meningitis and malaria. The first cholera cases (awaiting lab confirmation) have already been reported from Kalma camp (and a cholera vaccination programme is underway).

### Health

As can be seen from the overview, the health sector is one of the most under-served. As underlined in the water and sanitation sector, health risks are increasing.

The operating environment for health facilities is very difficult, especially following the start of the rains in mid-June. Access to essential primary health care remains very low. Many health facilities are providing only the most rudimentary and possibly even sporadic care.

Given the current low capacity, health facilities in many areas remain of poor quality and are in need of enhanced monitoring – both to provide curative assistance, as well as for reporting of needs to ensure rapid and appropriate response. Presently WHO estimate that 47% of the IDP population of Greater Darfur is covered by reporting sites. However, these reporting sites

constitute only 25% of the populated IDP settlements known to exist in Greater Darfur. In addition, not all reporting sites are regularly providing data i.e. on a weekly basis.

From the latest WHO analysis available (12 June – 16 July), a total of 29,595 cases were reported of which 39% were acute respiratory tract infection, 32% suspected malaria cases and 15% bloody diarrhoea cases.

### Common Services

Congruent with the large needs in all the traditional operational humanitarian sectors, substantial needs also occur in cross-cutting sectors and domains such as coordination, information, security, mine action and awareness, humanitarian flights and other forms of transport, logistics, aid flow management, site planning and camp management. Whilst more resources have been deployed, additional measures need to be initiated so as to ensure that the international relief effort in Darfur and the increasing group of actors on the ground respond in a prompt, safe, principled and coordinated manner.

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

The main, though not necessarily exclusive, concern is Darfur as follows :

In late summer 2003, the number of IDPs in Darfur was estimated at 250,000. The current total figure exceeds 1,000,000. This rapid increase during a relatively short period of time is attributable to the escalation of the conflict and related displacement that took place during the second half of 2003. In addition are over 200,000 vulnerable host communities.

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

Risks and dangers for local communities and humanitarian actors will remain abundant in the Darfur context for as long as there is no durable peace agreement. In the short to medium term the key risks and constraints that may arise and have to be taken into account are as follows:

- A break-down of the ceasefire and a related re-escalation of conflict;
- Reduced access in the rainy season;
- *Janjaweed* continue forcing IDPs to congregate in large camps where they continue to be vulnerable to abuse and harassment;
- Insecurity (including mines threats, banditry, uncontrolled armed groups, etc);
- Reduced access for personnel and relief goods due to bureaucratic impediments;
- Disease outbreaks and epidemics;
- Plans on the part of authorities to accelerate return of IDPs away from current settlements close to main towns to home or other areas without having protection issues adequately catered for.

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

### 2.1. – Objectives:

Principal objective :

To provide life-saving assistance the victims of conflict in Sudan.

Specific objectives :

To address life-threatening consequences of conflict on displaced and resident populations in Sudan.

### 2.2. - Components:

The sectors to be covered by the decision shall include all relevant components in a complex emergency/displacement setting. The specificities of this complex crisis (insecurity, limited access, limited number of humanitarian agencies, huge delivery gaps in all humanitarian sectors, etc) justifies that many humanitarian agencies may follow an integrated “multisectoral” approach in their humanitarian interventions.

#### Food Aid and Food Security

- Support to food distribution implementing partners (i.e. supporting the mechanics of the food operations: e.g. transportation)<sup>6</sup>;
- Targeted emergency household food security inputs to selected communities<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> Food commodities are not covered by this Decision.

<sup>7</sup> E.g. animal health, emergency seeds and tools.

### Protection, IHL, and Care for Special Groups

- Dissemination on IHL and basic humanitarian principles;
- Assessments of and field studies on basic protection issues (e.g. child soldiers, sexual violence, and separation);
- Assessment of capacity of local community protection mechanisms and development of strategies to strengthen them;
- Tracing and reunification where feasible;
- Specific services and care for victims of (sexual) violence and other traumatic events.

### Shelter and NFIs:

- Provision of tarpaulin (plastic sheeting) and/or basic local building materials, as well as basic household non-food items such as clothing, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, blankets, soap and water containers, cooking fuel;
- Assist the reinforcement of up-stream parts of the shelter / NFI supply pipeline as well as down-stream distribution systems.

### Water and Environmental Sanitation

- In densely populated IDP settings, distribution of soap, water containers, hygiene promotion through outreach workers, construction of latrines or other options for safe excreta disposal, vector control, waste water drainage, clean up campaigns, (re-) burial of animal carcasses and human corpses;
- In densely populated IDP settings, improved water supply, through a wide array of options ranging from tankering to the repair and improvement of existing sources such as hand pumps;
- In remote locations, when possible and relevant, repair of existing water sources.

### Health and Nutrition

- Further nutritional surveys where required to confirm and verify initial rapid assessments;
- Establishment of therapeutic and supplementary feeding programs (centre-based or community-based) in areas with highest malnutrition rates, preferably building on previous programs or through existing health structures;
- Mass measles vaccination in densely populated IDP settings in newly accessible areas not previously immunised and support to ongoing EPI where possible;
- Contribute to reduced risk for outbreaks and epidemics of communicable diseases (e.g. malaria, poliomyelitis, etc);
- Targeted inputs to restore or create a minimum level of basic curative (OPD) services combined with basic preventative health outreach and awareness in areas with high numbers of IDPs;
- Support for improved (secondary and tertiary) care for victims of various types of violence, evolving around issues such as sexual violence, HIV/AIDS, mental health care, surgery for the wounded and injured, obstetrics and mental and physical trauma; and
- Mobile clinics to enhance outreach to scattered IDPs.

### Common Services

- Bolster cross-cutting sectors and domains such as coordination, information, security, mine action and awareness, humanitarian flights and other forms of transport, logistics, aid flow management, site planning and camp management so as to facilitate a coordinated, principled, informed and safe response effort in the above sectors.

### 3 - Duration foreseen for actions within the framework of the proposed decision:

The duration for the implementation of this decision will be 12 months.

Humanitarian operations funded by this decision must be implemented within this period.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 01/08/2004.

Start Date : 01/08/2004

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 decision.

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.

### 4 –Previous interventions/decisions of the Commission within the context of the crisis concerned herewith

List of previous ECHO operations in <b>SUDAN</b>				
Decision number	Decision type	2002 EUR	2003 EUR	2004 EUR
ECHO/SDN/210/2002/01000	Global Plan	17,000,000		
ECHO/SDN/210/2002/02000	Emergency	1,000,000		
ECHO/SDN/210/2003/01000	Global Plan		20,000,000	
ECHO/SDN/210/2003/02000	Emergency		2,000,000	
ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/01000	Global Plan			20,000,000
ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/02000	Non Emergency			10,000,000
ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/03000	Non Emergency			10,000,000
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>18,000,000</b>	<b>22,000,000</b>	<b>40,000,000</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18,000,000</b>	<b>22,000,000</b>	<b>40,000,000</b>

Dated : 30/07/2004

Source : HOPE

Funds from previous decisions have all been either allocated or earmarked. This includes those from a decision (ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/04000) for 15 M€ launched recently and already fully earmarked to WFP and UN logistic support.

Decision ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/04000 builds on two € 10 million decisions for Darfur recently adopted by the European Commission as presented by ECHO (Humanitarian Aid Office),<sup>8</sup> and complements activities financed under ECHO's annual Sudan programmes for 2003 and 2004.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup> On June 14 2004 (ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/02000) and July 23 (ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/03000)

<sup>9</sup> ECHO/SDN/210/2003/01000 and ECHO/SDN/BUD/2004/01000, both for €20 million.



A further € 14 million has been made available to cover the needs of Sudanese refugees fleeing the Darfur crisis into in Chad, through three funding decisions.<sup>10</sup>

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

Donors in <b>SUDAN</b> the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others (**)	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria	200,000	ECHO	42,000,000	USA	80,819,442
Belgium	2,199,000	Food Aid	12,100,000	Canada	4,596,244
Denmark	6,605,460	Food Security	6,300,000	Japan	1,336,500
Finland	3,890,000	Seeds and tools	1,000,000	Australia	2,835,171
France	4,731,000	Peace Facility	12,000,000	New Zealand	500,580
Germany	9,527,379	EDF/HP	1,500,000	Norway	5,720,400
Greece	200,000	Co-financing	1,200,000	Switzerland	6,735,578
Ireland	2,808,000	RRM	400,000	Unspecified	1,134,000
Italy	0	Human Rights	100,000	Other donors	1,387,542
Luxembourg	0				
Netherlands	30,371,546				
Portugal	250,000				
Spain	900,000				
Sweden	18,336,730				
United Kingdom	0				
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>80,079,327</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>76,600,000</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>105,065,457</b>
		<b>Grand total</b>	<b>261,744,784</b>		

Dated : 30/07/2004

(\*) Source : ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://hac.cec.eu.int>

(\*\*) Source: Darfur Funding Overview, Office of the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sudan, 19.06.2004;

A High-Level Donor Alert Meeting on Darfur took place on June 3 2004 in Geneva, under the co-chairmanship of the EU Presidency, the European Commission, the UN and the US, and with the presence of representatives of 36 countries, including the GOS, and representatives of the AU and the League of Arab States.

A joint-statement issued by the co-chairs expressed the donor community's concern over the humanitarian and human rights crisis in Darfur and called on the warring parties to comply with the cease-fire agreement and their obligation to provide protection, security and assistance to civilians. A number of substantial pledges were made during the meeting.

On the ground, coordination takes place through the Darfur Contact Group facilitated by the Office of the UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator in Khartoum, supported by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA).

## 6 –Amount of decision and distribution by specific objective :

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: 5,000,000 euro

<sup>10</sup> ECHO/TCD/210/2003/01000, ECHO/TCD/BUD/2004/01000, and ECHO TCD/EDF/2004/02000.

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objective

<b>Principal objective: To provide life-saving assistance the victims of conflict in Sudan</b>				
<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Allocated amount by specific objective (Euro)</b>	<b>Possible geographical area of operation</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Potential partners<sup>11</sup></b>
Specific objective 1: To address life-threatening consequences of conflict on displaced and resident populations in Sudan.	5,000,000	Principally Darfur	Food / Food Security, Protection, IHL and Care for Special Groups, Shelter / NFI, WES, Health / Nutrition, Common Services	- ACF - FRA - ADRA - DEU - CAFOD - CAM - CARE - UK - CONCERN WORLDWIDE - CROIX-ROUGE - FICR-IFCR-CH - CROIX-ROUGE - GRC - DANCHURCH AID - DNK - DRC - EMDH - GOAL - INTERSOS - IOM - MEDAIR UK - MERLIN - MSF - BELG - MSF - CHE - MSF - ESP - MSF - NLD - ORDRE DE MALTE - DEU - OXFAM - UK - TROCAIRE - UN - UNFPA - UN - UNOCHA - WHO – OMS - WFP/PAM
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>			

<sup>11</sup> ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, (FR), ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN (NLD), Adventistische Entwicklungs- und Katastrophenhilfe e.V., CARE INTERNATIONAL UK , CATHOLIC AGENCY FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT (GBR), COMITE D'AIDE MEDICALE , CONCERN WORLDWIDE, (IRL), DANSK FLYGTNINGEHJAEPL, ENFANTS DU MONDE - DROITS DE L'HOMME, FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, FOLKEKIRKENS NODHJAEPL, (DNK), GOAL, (IRL), HELLENIC RED CROSS, (GRC), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT), INTERSOS , MALTESER HILFSDIENST, (DEU), MEDAIR UK (GBR), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES BELGIQUE/ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN BELGIE(BEL), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES2, MEDICAL EMERGENCY RELIEF INTERNATIONAL (GBR), MEDICOS SIN FRONTERAS, (E), OXFAM (GBR), Trocaire, (IRL), UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION - ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE, WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

## **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](http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm).

## COMMISSION DECISION

of

**on the financing of humanitarian operations from the 9<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund in SUDAN**

**THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,**

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000,

Having regard to the Internal Agreement of 15 December 2000 on the Financing and Administration of the Community Aid under the Financial Protocol to the Partnership Agreement between the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and the European Community and its Members States signed in Cotonou (Benin) on 23 June 2000, in particular Article 24 (3) (a) thereof<sup>12</sup>.

Whereas:

- 1) Conflict, especially that in the greater Darfur region between the Government of Sudan and armed opposition groups, has created major new humanitarian needs during the first half of 2004.
- 2) In greater Darfur alone, tens of thousands of people have been killed, and over one million people displaced.
- 3) A number of respected and experienced humanitarian actors have described the Darfur complex emergency as currently the world's greatest humanitarian crisis, in a region that is one of the poorest and most neglected in the Sudan, with some of the lowest human development indicators.
- 4) Insecurity and fear continue, linked to ongoing attacks and harassment of civilians by militias, and humanitarian conditions among the affected communities are precarious and likely to deteriorate further with the rainy season underway since mid-June.
- 5) An assessment of the humanitarian situation leads to the conclusion that humanitarian aid operations financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 12 months.
- 6) In accordance with the objectives set out in Article 72 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement and Article 25(2) of the Internal Agreement it is estimated that an amount of 5,000,000 Euro from the B-enveloppe for Sudan from 9<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to over 1,000,000 victims of conflict in need of a multi-sectoral package of emergency relief.

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<sup>12</sup> OJ L317 of 15.12.2000, p.354

- 7) The Commission has provided the European Development Fund Committee set up by the Internal Agreement with *ex ante* information according to the criteria laid down in Article 24 (5) of the Internal Agreement.

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 5,000,000 euro from the 9<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund for humanitarian aid operations to assist vulnerable people directly affected by the armed conflict in SUDAN.
2. In accordance with Article 72 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:
  - To address life-threatening consequences of conflict on displaced and resident populations in Sudan.

The amount allocated to this objective is listed in the annex to this decision.

*Article 2*

1. The implementation of humanitarian aid operations funded by this decision shall have a maximum duration of 12 months, starting from 01/08/2004. Expenditure under this decision is eligible from that date.
2. If the operations envisaged in this decision are suspended due to *force majeure* or comparable circumstances, the period of suspension will 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 its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission*

*Member of the Commission*

## Annex: Breakdown of allocations by specific objective

<b>Principal objective : To provide life-saving assistance the victims of conflict in Sudan</b>	
<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Amount per specific objective (Euro)</b>
To address life-threatening consequences of conflict on displaced and resident populations in Sudan.	5,000,000
TOTAL	5,000,000

Grants for the implementation of humanitarian aid within the meaning of Regulation No.1257/96 are awarded in accordance with the Financial Regulation, in particular Article 110 thereof, and its Implementing Rules in particular Article 168 thereof.<sup>13</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)

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<sup>13</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) n° 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002, OJ L 248, 16/09/2002 and n° 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002, OJ L 357 of 31/12/2002.