



Humanitarian aid decision

23.02.01

Heading: Humanitarian aid aiming at responding to the consequences of population movements (refugees, hosts population, repatriated) in Chad as a result of the current conflict in Darfour (Sudan).

Place of the operation: CHAD

Amount of the decision: EUR 12,000,000

Number of reference of the decision: ECHO/TCD/BUD/2005/01000

Preamble

1 - justification, needs and target population:

1.1. - Justification:

At the beginning of 2003, a major political and humanitarian crisis started in the Sudanese region of Darfour in western Sudan, all the while when Sudan had started a decisive phase in the negotiations aiming at regulating another internal conflict opposing the North and the South of the country.

The Darfour region has long been affected by local tribal conflicts exacerbated by the competition between nomadic farmers and stock breeders, related to scarce natural resources in an environment on a bring of desertification. In addition, the socio-economic marginalisation of the region, resulting from a continued and deliberate policy followed by successive Sudanese governments, constituted a destabilising factor.

Since the beginning of 2003, the security in the area has strongly deteriorated and the situation transformed into open war with the emergence of rebellious groups, mainly of the Zaghawa, Fur and Massalit ethnic origin, opposed to the Sudanese government supported by Arab militias called *Janjaweed*.

The political and humanitarian situation in Darfour has continued to deteriorate, causing the internal displacement of more than one and a half million persons since the start of the crises in February 2003. The internally displaced are particularly vulnerable to attacks by the Arab militias. These people were lacking, until the beginning of 2004, all humanitarian assistance and protection due to the impossibility for the humanitarian organisations of reaching the region resulting from volatile security conditions. At present, external aid, in particular that of the European Commission (EC), has reached the vast majority of displaced persons in Sudan. Total aid given by the EC to the Darfour crisis, including the Sudanese refugees in Chad, since the beginning of the

crisis is EUR 213 M, including EUR 86 M via ECHO (EUR 72 M to the Darfour and EUR 14 M in Chad).

Between April 2003 and February 2004, attacks directed against the civilian population in Darfour, air raids in particular, caused a surge of Sudanese refugees to the north-east of the neighbouring Chad, in the regions of BET (Bourkou-Ennedi-Tibesti), Biltine and Ouaddaï which are cross-border with Sudan on a North-South axis of 500 Kms.

Initially, the refugees installed provisional camps in the immediate vicinity of the border on sites close to Chadian villages where water points were accessible (Bahai and Bamina in the region of BET, Iriba, Birak, Tiné and Adré in the region of Biltine; Adé, Daguessa, Haraza and Tissi in the region of Ouaddaï).

In 2003 and at the beginning of 2004, emergency assistance was delivered to the refugees on these sites during the time that UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) and its partners set up camps at a distance of at least 50 Kms from the border. The process of transferring the refugees started in January 2004 with the opening of the first camp, Farchana.

On 31 January 2005, the number of refugee camps is 11 including 1 in the region of BET (Ouré Cassoni); 5 in the region of Biltine (Iridimi, Toulloum, Amenabak, Kounoungo et mile) and 5 in the region of Ouaddaï (Farchana, Bredjing, Treguine, Goz amer et Djabal) hosting in total 213,314 refugees.

Identification for new sites for installing additional camps is in progress. These future sites, in the regions of BET, Biltine and Ouaddaï, will have to accommodate the refugees of the Ouré Cassoni camp, located too close to the border, and those of the Amenabak camp where water resources are non-existent. The new camps will also relieve pressure from camps where water resources are decreasing, such as Iridimi and Farchana.

These future camps will also permit reception of new potential refugees from Darfour drawn to Chad following further deterioration of security conditions or pushed by hunger. A contingency plan for the reception of 100,000 additional refugees is being finalised by the United Nations agencies and NGOs.

Chad is not only hosting the refugees but has also acted as a mediator between the Sudanese parties to the conflict. The international community is also involved trying to reduce the humanitarian crisis and in mediating the conflict in Darfour by putting pressure on the parties, particularly on the Sudanese government. The recent signing of the overall peace agreement (9 January 2005) with the SPLM/A (Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army) aiming to settle the decades old North-South conflict in Sudan could present, for the Sudanese authorities, an opportunity to turn its attention on the conflict in Darfour. This in order to find a sustainable solution for the suspension of hostilities in the region, either by negotiation, or by strength by redeploying to Darfour the military resources rendered available as a result of the peace agreement signed with the SPLM/A.

Negotiations between the conflicting parties in Darfour should continue and the humanitarian situation improve but it is not likely that the conflict will be solved in a near future due to frequent violations of the cease fire and the marginalisation of certain rebel movements. Repatriation of the refugees from Chad towards Sudan is therefore not envisaged in the short run.

It can be mentioned that Chad has already hosted, in 1998, roughly 15,000 refugees from Darfour, in the region of the Ouaddaï. Humanitarian aid was then provided mainly around the Adré area and ceased following the improvement of security conditions in Darfour in 2000.

In addition, Chad currently hosts 30,000 refugees from the Central African Republic in the south of the country in the regions of the Logone Oriental and Chari Means, in a distance of approximately 600 Kms from the regions hosting the Sudanese refugees. These Central African refugees are installed in the camps of Amboko (13,738 people) and Yaroungu (13,199 people). The UNHCR considers that approximately 3,063 refugees are installed along the border, in these two camps. The current decision does however not aim at providing assistance to the latter group of refugees.

1.2. - Identified needs:

The three regions hosting the Sudanese refugees (BET, Biltine and Ouaddaï) are located in Eastern Chad. They are respectively in a sahara-Sahelian area for BET, Sahelian for Biltine and sahelo-Sudanese for Ouaddaï. These regions are very poor in agricultural and hydraulic resources and not favourably destined to host important numbers of population, particularly sedentary farmers.

The demographic data for the three regions concerned is based on the census of 1993, extrapolated for 2004¹. The local population is estimated at 722,247 people out of which 28,247 in the prefecture of the Ennedi Est (region of BET) hosting the Ouré Cassoni camp, 118,306 in the region of Biltine and 575,694 in the region of the Ouaddaï. The refugee population is estimated by the UNHCR at 232. 125 people (on 31 January 2005) including 213,314 in the camps and 18,811 installed at the border. This refugee population is entirely dependent on the humanitarian aid provided by the UNHCR and the humanitarian organisations.

ECHO has conducted several evaluation missions to analyse the situation and the needs since 2003 leading to opening of a permanent office in Chad in October 2004. Three financial decisions have already been adopted: in October 2003, in March 2004 and in August 2004 for a total amount of EUR 14 M in order to meet the most pressing humanitarian needs of the refugees in the sectors of health, nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, non-food items and protection.

Provision of aid to the refugees has constantly improved during 2004 to reach a relatively satisfactory level at the end of the year. The indicators in the sectors of health, nutrition, water and sanitation are close or have reached the Sphere standards.

The operations financed by ECHO in 2004 have also taken into account the most urgent needs of the host population directly affected by the presence of refugees having accommodated them in first line before the arrival of external aid. In the region of Biltine the agricultural deficit noted in 2004 is 72% in relation to the harvest of 2003.

¹ FEWSNET source

This deficit is the consequence of a bad rainy season (212.5 mm in 2004 compared with 415.8 mm in 2003). Due to the mediocre harvest of the previous year, not having enabled the farmers to build stocks, the availability in cereals is low and prices are rising throughout the region.

According to Fewsnets (Famine and Early Warning System Network), the risks of famine are high, in the region of Biltine in particular. The deterioration of the living conditions of the local population can be a factor of additional tension towards the refugees. Local populations are likely to move towards urban centres and refugee camps in order to benefit from aid if their food security deteriorates in the months to come. Although the majority of the needs among the local Chadian population are not connected with the presence of the refugees but rather to the weaknesses of structural development of the region and to the characteristics of the environment, the extension of humanitarian assistance to certain sectors of the host population will be probably still necessary in 2005.

It is however essential that the developmental organisations take into account the deficits of this region which can under no circumstances be resolved by the instruments of humanitarian aid.

With regard to the refugees, the situation in Darfour and the extent of the humanitarian crisis does not allow envisaging the return of the refugees to Sudan in the near future, leaving the door open to possible new surges of refugees. For all these reasons, ECHO considers that it is necessary to allocate more funds to continue covering the need resulting from the crisis.

The current needs of the refugees continue to be connected to the sectors of health, water and sanitation, food security, shelter and essential non-food items. Actions aiming at initiating small income generating projects are necessary to avoid complete dependence of external assistance, to preserve the refugees' dignity and to preserve coexistence with the local people.

Refugees also require protection in view of their vulnerability. Minimum basic education is also essential to the children in the camps.

Humanitarian organisations, mainly the UNHCR, NGOs and the Red Cross have already been covering the needs of the refugees for more than one year. It is necessary to continue this assistance and to cover the remaining needs. The UNHCR launched a call for funds (CAP) of an amount of EUR 128 M for 2005 in order to provide humanitarian assistance to the refugees.

The humanitarian needs of the refugees can be described as follows:

Health/Nutrition: The most recurring illnesses within the refugee population are malaria, respiratory infections and diarrhoea. There is also a risk of cholera, meningitis and polio. The difficult living conditions of the population increase the risk for illnesses. Vaccination against polio and meningitis was conducted in the area but an intensive follow-up has to be ensured. A new vaccination campaign against meningitis will be essential in the event of propagation of a new epidemic in the camps. It is also essential to continue providing primary and secondary health care to the refugees. The malnutrition rate strongly decreased in the refugee camps as a result of general food distributions and supplementary feeding programmes. However, refugees remain strongly dependent on food aid. Possible food crisis concern also the local population, for which the risks of famine are high. Monitoring of the nutritional status of the host population has to be conducted parallel to that carried out for the refugees.

Food aid: The context of the crisis does not allow interruptions in food supplies since refugees do not have any alternative food sources. WFP (World Food Programme), responsible for the provision and distribution of food, is facing important logistical and financial challenges and has

to find solutions quickly to avoid ruptures of stock. The budget line for food security of the EC allocated EUR 2 M to WFP for food aid for the refugees in 2005. Stocks have to be pre-positioned by WFP before the rainy season starts in June and it will be necessary to continue financing food supplies at a later date. Providing food aid will probably have to be envisaged for certain sectors of the vulnerable local host population as well who are victims of drought and bad harvests.

Water/Sanitation: Access to drinking water for the refugees continues to be very limited. The capacities of the currently exploited water sources are unknown and can dry up during the dry season (April and May). Complementary aquiferous resources have to be quickly identified on new refugee reception sites in order to prepare for the partial or total relocation of the refugees from camps where the water supply will become insufficient. New boreholes have to be drilled to find in-depth water sources and additional wells should be build or rehabilitated. The health facilities are still insufficient in the camps and the materials for their construction are difficult to find. Moreover, the supply of sanitation products is also essential.

Shelters/Essential Non-Food Items/Combustibles: The essential materials for the construction of shelters are rarely available in the desert environment. A large part of the needs in the shelter sector have been covered but the extreme weather deteriorates quickly the existing assets which will have to be renewed. The UNHCR envisages the fragmentation of several camps in order to decrease pressure on the environment. In addition, the majority of the refugees fled Sudan without their personal belongings. It is therefore necessary to continue the supply of essential non-food items such as covers, kitchen utensils and jerrycans. Lastly, the fuel needed by refugees for cooking purposes constitutes a crucial problem to which suitable solutions have to be found. Alternative strategies to the use of wood have to be developed to avoid the complete deforestation of the areas of installation of the refugees and the potential conflicts on this subject with the local population.

Protection/Education: A secure entry to Chad has to be ensured and the risks for conflicts between the refugees and the host communities have to be identified and reduced. Protection has to be strengthened primarily by targeting military forces and local militias present in the Eastern regions which constitute a heightened risk for the refugees. The armed forces are by majority constituted from people from the Zagawa and Gorane ethnic groups who do not have family links with the refugees, except those of Ouré Cassoni and of the camps installed in the region of Iriba. Considering the important proportion of women and children of less than 5 years old among the refugees (estimated by WFP at more than 75% of the refugee population), particular effort has to be made in order to ensure their protection and their physical safety. A significant number of refugees also suffer from psychological traumatism due to sexual violence directed specifically towards women.

Basic educational services for the refugee children are currently in an embryonic state in the camps and these services have to be ensured particularly regarding the extended presence of the refugees. Vocational training have to be set up also targeting the young people of ages 16 to 18.

Other sectors: The humanitarian situation in Chad is certainly less complex than the one prevailing in the neighbouring Darfour but there exists nevertheless a need for coordination of information, intervention strategies and humanitarian operations on the ground due to the considerable distances between the various actors as well as difficulties of movement and of collection of information. Humanitarian air transport is also essential in view of the important distances which characterise the intervention area and the dispersal of refugees. Logistics as whole, protection, mine clearance and awareness-raising, as well as efficient management of the camps are also essential in order to ensure a coordinated, rapid, effective and secure humanitarian response.

1.3. - Targeted Populations and regions concerned:

The targeted populations of this decision include on one hand:

- The 232,125 Sudanese refugees installed in the regions of the BET, Biltine and Ouaddaï (213,314 are installed in 11 refugee camps and 18,811 still remain on the border choosing not to be transferred to the camps for the meanwhile).
- Certain groups of vulnerable persons within the local Chadian population of the three regions hosting the Sudanese refugees (722,247 people of whom 28,247 in the prefecture of the Ennedi Est, region of BET, 118,306 in the region of Biltine and 575,694 in the region of Ouaddaï) directly affected by the presence of the refugees.

1.4. – Evaluation of the risks and possible constraints:

The political agenda for 2005 in Chad seems charged with an electoral census, a referendum for the modification of the constitution and general and or presidential elections which can have significant consequences for the country and the refugees.

Cross-border attacks of the Sudanese militias to Chad aiming at stealing cattle are continuing, causing disputes with the Chadian armed forces. This situation can escalate to the point of destabilising the relations that are already fragile and complex between Chad and Sudan.

Water supply throughout the region continues being an important constraint. The lack of drinking water can hamper the humanitarian actions and the supply of basic services for the refugees.

The complex environment characterised by long distances, bad road conditions and extreme climate, particularly the heat and heavy seasonal rains, also represent a major constraint for providing assistance to the refugees.

Problems of access to land and resources could generate confrontations between the refugees and the local population, related particularly to the precarious food security of the local population.

The uncertainty related to the development of the conflict in Sudan, the potential arrival of new refugees to Chad or the departure of the current refugee caseload remains an unpredictable element. A contingency plan based on the possible arrival of 100,000 additional refugees in 2005 is being prepared by the UNHCR.

2 objectives and components of the proposed humanitarian intervention:

2.1. – objectives:

The principal objective is to provide humanitarian aid aiming at responding to the consequences of population movements (refugees, hosts population, repatriated) in Chad as a result of the current conflict in Darfour (Sudan).

The first specific objective is to decrease, within the targeted population, excessive mortality and morbidity resulting from illnesses, malnutrition, lack of drinking water and sanitation, insufficient food and lack of shelter, and to provide services in the fields of coordination, education and protection.

The second specific objective is to maintain an appropriate capacity on the field in order to evaluate the needs, to develop coordinated responses and to evaluate the operations financed by the Commission in the country covered by this decision.

2.2. - components:

The priorities concerning the refugees aim at consolidating the current aid mechanisms in place by funding multisectoral programmes. ECHO will continue supporting integrated humanitarian aid to the refugee population by supporting the humanitarian actors, while protecting and assisting the refugees and targeted groups within the local host population.

This assistance will consist mainly of providing essential services, namely health care, nutritional services, sufficient quantity of drinking water, installation of sanitation facilities, shelter and basic non-food items including fuel. Protection of refugees and primary education will also be included in the assistance programme. This aid will also cover the costs of transfer of the refugees to and from the border, in particular in the event of possible repatriation.

ECHO will encourage the use of Sphere standards and indicators within the framework of the operations it finances.

The following activities will be supported in and around the camps and in the border areas:

Health/Nutrition:

- Curative and preventive primary health care including mobile medical teams if necessary.
- Strengthening of the secondary health care in particular for the victims of violence, war wounded and victims of sexual violence, as well as obstetrics.
- Strengthening of the local health infrastructures of the reception areas by supply of medicines and medical equipment.
- Vaccination campaigns in and around the refugees camps and sites in the event of epidemics and/or risks of epidemics.
- Supplementary and therapeutic nutritional centres accessible to children under 5 years of age and pregnant and lactating women, set up in the areas where moderate and/or high malnutrition rates are identified.

Food aid and food security:

- Food distributions in the camps and at the border if necessary in addition to the allocation of the food security budget line of the EC
- Surveys of nutritional status (food basket monitoring of post-distribution monitoring)
- Support to certain income generating activities in the camps (small agricultural and livestock-farming activities)

Water/Sanitation:

- Provision of drinking water via drilling of boreholes, digging of wells and/or well rehabilitation; water pipelines towards the refugees camps/sites and treatment of water as well as awareness-raising for the proper use of water and water facilities.
- Construction of health facilities: latrines, wash slabs, showers and garbage collection facilities. Awareness-raising for proper hygiene.
- Purchase, transport and distribution of hygiene products (soap).
- Provision of water for the cattle owned by the refugees.

Shelter/Basic Commodities:

- Purchase, transport and distribution of shelter and construction materials necessary to reduce the vulnerability of refugees and to improve their safety and protection.
- Purchase, transport and distribution basic non-food items (covers, cooking sets, jerrycans) and fuels and/or of technical means and equipment reducing fuel consumption.

Protection/Education:

- Protection of the refugees via presence of and monitoring by protection officers of the mandated organisations.
- Basic education services to refugee children.
- Vocational training for refugee adolescents.

Other sectors:

- Coordination of the humanitarian activities
- Planning, construction and management of refugee camps
- Transport of the refugees towards the camps or eventual repatriation operations
- Logistics: land/air transport of goods and humanitarian personnel
- Mine clearance and awareness-raising to the presence of mines

2.3. – Expected results:

- Availability and access to basic health care;
- Epidemics prevented within the population concerned;
- Absence of food crisis and famine via sufficient and regular food distributions and surveys and monitoring of nutritional status;
- Reductions of illnesses related to water and poor hygiene conditions;
- Reduction of mortality due to malnutrition, communicable diseases and violence related to the conflict;
- Reduction of vulnerability and improvement of living conditions of the refugees and the affected host population;
- Secured environment and ensured protection for the target population ;
- Improvement of working conditions and the safety of the humanitarian actors;

3 – Duration of the decision:

The implementation of the decision will be of 12 months

The humanitarian operations financed by this decision have to be implemented within the aforementioned period.

Expenditure eligible under this decision is from 15/04/ 2005 in order to meet the most pressing needs of the refugees, to cope with an importing increase in the number of refugees compared to the previous decision , and to provide continuous support for ECHO's operational partners.

Starting date: 15/04/2005

If the implementation of the actions envisaged in this decision is suspended due to *force majeure* or owing to comparable circumstances, the period of suspension will not be taken into account in the calculation of the duration of the decision.

According to the development of the situation on the ground, the Commission reserves itself the right to cancel the conventions signed with the humanitarian organisations in charge of the implementation when the suspension of the activities expands over a period longer than one third of the total of the planned duration of the action. The procedure envisaged in this respect in the specific convention will be applied.

4 - interventions/previous Commission Decisions in the context of the concerned crisis

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

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: EUR 12,000,000

6.2. - Budgetary ventilation by specific objective

Principal objective Humanitarian aid aiming at responding to the consequences of population movements (refugees, hosts population, repatriated) in Chad as a result of the current conflict in Darfour (Sudan).				
Specific objective	Amount allocated by specific objective (EUR)	Probable geographical region of the operation	Activities	Potential partners¹
Specific Objective 1: Decrease, within the targeted population, excessive mortality and morbidity resulting from illnesses, malnutrition, lack of drinking water and sanitation, insufficient food and lack of shelter, and to provide services in the fields of coordination, education and protection.	11.725, 000	Chad (regions of Biltine, BET, and Ouaddai)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health care - Nutritional programmes - food aid and food security - water and sanitation - shelter - non-food items - protection of refugees - basic education for refugee children - coordination of aid - logistics - mine clearance 	ACF –FRA, CARE –FRA, COOPI, CORD, RED CROSS, ICRC, ESP –RED CROSS, FICR-CH , HELP, INTERSOS, IRC –U.K., MSF – BEL, MSF –FRA, MSF –LUX, MSF –NLD, OXFAM –U.K., PU, UNHCR –BEL, UNICEF-BEL , UNOCHA, WFP, WHO, WORLD VISION - U.K.
Specific Objective 2: To maintain an appropriate capacity on the field in order to evaluate the needs, to develop coordinated responses and to evaluate the operations financed by the Commission in the country covered by this decision.	275, 000		- Technical assistance	
TOTAL	12,000,000			

¹ ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM (FR), CARE (FR), COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE, CHRISTIAN OUTREACH RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT (UK), CROIX ROUGE, COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE, CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA (E), FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE (CH), HILFE ZUR SELBSTHILFE E.V (D), INTERSOS, INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (UK), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (BEL), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (F), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (LUX), ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN (NLD), OXFAM (UK), PREMIERE URGENCE, UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (BEL), UNICEF (BEL), UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS - PROGRAMME ALIMENTAIRE MONDIALE, ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE, WORLD VISION (UK.)

7 –Evaluation

In application of the Article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid, the Commission is required "to carry out regularly evaluations of actions of humanitarian aid financed by the Commission with a view to establishing if the objectives pursued by these actions were achieved and with a view to providing guidelines to improve the effectiveness of the future actions". These evaluations are structured and are organised based on overall and horizontal themes forming part of the annual ECHO strategy such as questions concerning the children, safety of humanitarian workers, respect of human rights, gender issues. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is drawn up after a consultation process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not provided for in the initial programme, in response to individual events or to variable circumstances. Additional information can be obtained on:

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

8 –Budgetary Impact Article 23.02.01

	EC (in EUR)
Initial commitment appropriations available for 2005	476,500,000
Supplementary budgets	-
Transfers	-
Strengthening of the Emergency Aid Reserve	100,000,000
Total Available Appropriation	576,500,000
Total executed on 8/2/2005	372.151.370
Remainder available	204.348.630
Total amount of the decision	12,000,000

COMMISSION DECISION

of
related to the financing of humanitarian operations from the budget of the European Union to CHAD

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No.. 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning the humanitarian aid², and in particular its Article 15 (2),

Considering that:

- (1) the confrontation between rebel groups and government backed militias continue in the province of Darfour, in the east of Sudan,
- (2) the combats in Sudan, neighbouring country of Chad, caused the displacement of 232,125 persons to Chad where they found refuge,
- (3) the refugees are located in a distant desert region, difficult to access where food, water and essential services are insufficient,
- (4) the risk of malnutrition and of acute epidemics due to lack of food and poor sanitary condition is very high,
- (5) certain vulnerable groups among the local population affected by the presence of refugees also need assistance in the fields of water/sanitation, health and nutrition,
- (6) the operations of humanitarian aid financed by this decision will have to be of a maximum duration 12-month, the expenditure being eligible as from 15 April 2005.
- (7) it is estimated that an amount of EUR 12,000,000 coming from the budget line 23.02.01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide assistance to 232,125 Sudanese refugees in Chad affected by the combats in Sudan and certain vulnerable groups among the local population affected by the presence of the refugees, taking account the available budget, interventions of other donors and other factors.
- (8) in accordance with Article 17 (3), of Regulation (EC) No.. 1257/96 of 20 June 1996, the humanitarian aid Committee delivered a favourable opinion on 29/04/2005.

HAS TAKEN THE PRESENT DECISION:

²OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general guidelines of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 12,000,000 for operations of humanitarian aid aiming at responding to the consequences of population movements (refugees, hosts population, repatriated) in Chad as a result of the current conflict in Darfour (Sudan) under budget line 23.02.01 of the general budget 2005 of the European Union.
2. In accordance with Articles 2 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No.. 1257/96 of the Council, the humanitarian operations will be implemented within the framework of the following specific objectives:
 - To decrease, within the targeted population, excessive mortality and morbidity resulting from illnesses, malnutrition, lack of drinking water and sanitation, insufficient food and lack of shelter, and to provide services in the fields of coordination, education and protection.
 - To maintain an appropriate capacity on the field in order to evaluate the needs, to develop coordinated responses and to evaluate the operations financed by the Commission in the countries covered by this decision.

The amounts allocated to each one of these objectives are listed in the annex of this decision.

Article 2

The Commission can, if the humanitarian situation justifies it, reallocate the financing levels established for one of the specific objectives specified to Article 1, paragraph 2, with another objective mentioned, in as far as the reallocated amount accounts for less than 20% of the overall amount of this decision and does not exceed EUR 2,000,000.

Article 3

1. The duration of implementation of this decision has to be a maximum period of 12 months, beginning on 15/04/2005.
2. The expenditures engaged under this decision is eligible as from the 15/04/2005.
3. If the actions envisaged in this decision are suspended due to *force majeure* or owing to comparable circumstances, the period of suspension will not be taken into account in the calculation of the duration of implementation of this decision.

Article 4

This decision takes effect at the time of its adoption

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

Annex: Breakdown of the amounts allocated by specific objective:

Specific objectives	Amount by specific objective (euro)
Specific Objective 1: Decrease, within the targeted population, excessive mortality and morbidity connected with the illnesses, to malnutrition, to the lack of drinking water and of hygiene, to the food insufficiency, to the lack of shelters, and to provide services in the fields of coordination, education and protection.	11.725, 000
Specific Objective 2: Appropriate capacity maintenance on the ground in order to evaluate the needs, to develop coordinated answers and to evaluate the operations financed by the Commission in the country covered by this decision	275, 000
TOTAL	12, 000, 000

The subsidies intended for the implementation of humanitarian aid within the scope of Council Regulation (EC) n° 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning the humanitarian aid are granted in accordance with the provisions of the financial regulation, in particular its Article 110, and of its implementation, in particular their Article 168.³

Financing rate: in accordance with the provisions of Article 169 of the financial regulation, the subsidies granted for the implementation of this decision can cover the costs of an action completely.

The operations of humanitarian aid financed by the Commission are carried out by NGOs and the organisations of the Red Cross, on the basis of partnership framework-contracts (CCP) (in accordance with the provisions of Article 163 of the methods of implementation of the financial regulation), and by the United Nations agencies, on the basis of the financial and administrative framework agreement (FAFA). The standards and the criteria fixed in the standard ECHO partnership framework contract to which the NGOs and the international organisations have to conform and procedures and the criteria to be respected to become partner can be found on the site

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

³Regulation (EC, Euratom) n° 1605/2002 of the Council at its meeting on 25 June 2002, OJ L248 of the 16/09/2002 and n° 2342/2002 of the Commission of 23 December 2002, OJ L 357 of the 31/12/2002.