

**COMMUNICATION FROM MR. LOUIS MICHEL, MEMBER OF THE  
COMMISSION, TO THE COMMISSION.**

**SUBJECT:        Modification of Commission Decision concerning Humanitarian aid for the people displaced by the conflict in Sri Lanka and for the Tamil refugees living in Tamil Nadu, India.**

**AMOUNT OF DECISION:        EUR 2,000,000**

**NEW AMOUNT of DECISION:   EUR 4,000,000**

On 19 May 2005, the Commission adopted a Decision concerning Humanitarian aid for the people displaced by the conflict in Sri Lanka and for the Tamil refugees living in Tamil Nadu, India. The projects financed cover humanitarian needs such as shelter, non-food items, water and sanitation, health, protection and psychosocial support.

Since the preparation of the Decision however, a huge disparity has emerged in Sri Lanka between the humanitarian assistance provided to internally displaced people (IDPs) affected by the tsunami and the assistance provided to IDPs displaced by prior conflict in the same districts. In the north and east, where ECHO operations are concentrated, discrimination in the treatment of IDPs is of particular concern.

ECHO is therefore requesting an increase in the total budget of this decision from EUR 2 million to EUR 4 million in order to increase both the number of conflict affected IDPs covered by the decision and the standards of aid provided to these IDPs. The additional budget will finance projects with ECHO partners who are well established in the affected districts and who have previously implemented ECHO operations for the conflict affected population.

This modification of the decision therefore proposes:

- To increase the total budget of this decision from EUR 2 million to EUR 4 million.
- To increase the number of beneficiaries under specific objective 1 from 200.000 to 300.000.
- To add CARE International (DE), German Agro Action (DE), UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and ZOA Vluchtelingen zorg (NL) to the list of partners under specific objective 1.

Considering the above, it is requested that the Commission approve the modification of this decision.