

COMMISSION DECISION
of
**on the financing of emergency humanitarian operations from the 9th European
Development Fund in**
Caribbean

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, in particular Articles 72 and 73 thereof,

Having regard to the Internal Agreement of 18 September 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 Member States signed in Cotonou (Benin) on 23 June 2000, in particular Article 25.2, and revised in Luxemburg on 25 June 2005¹.

Whereas:

- (1) On 17 August 2007 Hurricane Dean entered the Eastern Caribbean, causing considerable damage to Saint Lucia and Dominica;
- (2) On 18 and 19 August, Hurricane Dean passed over Haiti, with rains, strong winds and high waves which caused damage to agricultural plantations, houses and infrastructure;
- (3) On 19 August Hurricane Dean passed South of Jamaica, driving over 4,500 people into 191 shelters across the island, and the Government of Jamaica declared a state of emergency for one month;
- (4) On 21 August Hurricane Dean made landfall in Mexico, near the border with Belize, as a category five hurricane, with winds of 270 kilometres per hour, causing significant damage to housing and agriculture and leaving approximately 2,000 people homeless;
- (5) The current situation can be considered as a particular case of urgency in the sense of Article 25.2 of the Internal Agreement;
- (6) An assessment of the humanitarian situation leads to the conclusion that an urgent humanitarian aid operation should be financed by the Community for a period of 6 months;
- (7) 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 EUR 3,000,000 from the 9th European Development Fund, representing less than 25% of the National Indicative Programmes, is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to populations directly affected by Hurricane Dean;
- (8) The use of the 9th European Development Fund is necessary as all the funds for ACP countries in the general budget are entirely allocated;

¹ OJ L287 of 28 October 2005, p.4
[ECHO-CR/EDF/2007/01000](#)

(9) The Commission will inform the EDF Committee set up by the Internal Agreement with ex post information according to the criteria laid down in Article 25.3 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 EUR 3,000,000 from the 9th European Development Fund for humanitarian aid operations to assist vulnerable people directly affected by Hurricane Dean in the Caribbean region.

2. In accordance with Article 72 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in pursuance of the following specific objective:

- To provide multi-sector emergency relief and recovery assistance to hurricane victims

The total amount of this decision is allocated to this objective.

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.

2. Expenditure under this Decision is eligible from 17 August 2007.

3. 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 humanitarian aid operations.

Article 3

1. The Commission shall implement the budget by direct centralised management or by joint management with international organisations.

2. The actions supported by this decision will be implemented by humanitarian aid organisations that are signatories to the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) or the EC/UN Financial Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA).

3. Taking account of the specificities of humanitarian aid, the nature of the activities to be undertaken, the specific location constraints and the level of urgency, the activities covered by this decision may be financed in full in accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation. This means that in case of co-financing, the possible rate of co-financing can go up to 99% if needed.

Article 4

The decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission



Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision

F9 (FED9)

Title: Emergency humanitarian aid for people affected by Hurricane Dean in the Caribbean region

Location of operation: Caribbean

Amount of Decision: EUR 3,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/-CR/EDF/2007/01000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale :

On 16 August 2007 Tropical Storm Dean was classified as Hurricane Dean² by the National Hurricane Centre, United States of America. On 17 August 2007 Hurricane Dean entered the Eastern Caribbean, passing between Saint Lucia and Martinique, affecting these islands and the nearby island of Dominica. It caused damage to rooftops and considerable flooding in Saint Lucia and Dominica. The hurricane also caused significant damage to the agricultural sector on both islands, according to initial assessments from government officials, DG ECHO Partners, disaster specialists, and officials from Caribbean Regional Organisations.

From 18-19 August, Hurricane Dean passed over Haiti. Rains, strong winds and high waves caused damage to agricultural plantations, houses and infrastructure, mainly in South and South-east areas of Haiti. In Haiti 2,000 families were affected. On 19 August the eye of the hurricane passed South of Jamaica. The Jamaican Office of Disaster Preparedness (ODPEM) reported floods, damage to roofs and water supply systems, plus over 4,500 people occupying 191 shelters across the island. Power and water were disconnected and the Government of Jamaica declared a state of emergency for one month.

On 21 August Hurricane Dean made landfall in Mexico, near the border with Belize, as a category five hurricane, with winds of 270 kilometres per hour. According to the Government of Belize, high winds and heavy rains resulting from the hurricane caused significant damage

² Pronounced rotary circulation, with constant wind speed of 74 miles per hour / 119 kilometres per hour or more
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to housing and agriculture in the Northern districts of Corozal and Orange Walk, which were declared disaster areas on 21 August. Preliminary assessments by the Government of Belize together with UN agencies and the Red Cross report that the hurricane damaged more than 1,500 houses, rendering approximately 2,000 people homeless in Northern districts and causing extensive damage. Initial aerial surveys also indicate that the storm destroyed the entire export papaya crop and caused great damage to sugar crops, affecting farmers' livelihoods.

1.2. - Identified needs :

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid, DG ECHO, deployed a humanitarian expert from DG ECHO's Caribbean office in Santo Domingo to Jamaica for an assessment mission on 22 August 2007. Other information on identified needs comes from the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), USAID, OPDEM, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies (IFRC), the French Red Cross (FRC), the Norwegian Red Cross (NRC) and Oxfam-GB.

Assessments indicate needs in the following sectors:

- Shelter
- Water
- Sanitation
- Health
- Emergency rehabilitation
- Food
- Food security
- Non-food relief items
- Livelihoods

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned :

This funding decision aims to provide assistance to people affected by Hurricane Dean in Belize, Dominica, Haiti, Jamaica and Saint Lucia.

It is estimated that 50,000 people have been affected, including those who are displaced and lost their homes. The following is an estimate per country, also showing the population per country :

Country	Number of Beneficiaries	Population ³
Belize	7,500	219,000
Dominica	5,000	72,000
Haiti	7,500	8,500,000
Jamaica	25,000	2,700,000
Saint Lucia	5,000	146,000
TOTAL	50,000	11,637,000

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints :

³ World Bank 2005
ECHO-CR/EDF/2007/01000

The following risks and constraints should be considered:

- Access problems, linked to damaged infrastructure
- Deterioration of the security situation
- Further natural disasters, especially as the Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June until November
- Co-ordination between local authorities and relief organisations

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. - Objectives :

Principal objective: **To save and preserve lives during the emergency caused by Hurricane Dean in the Caribbean region**

Specific objective:

- To provide multi-sector emergency relief and recovery assistance to hurricane victims

2.2. - Components :

- Shelter:- plastic sheeting and tarpaulins for temporary shelter, plus tools and materials to rebuild homes
- Water:- provision of drinking water, including bottled water and small-scale rehabilitation of water systems; water containers, tanks, filters and purification tablets
- Sanitation:- hygiene promotion, hygiene kits and latrines, especially for those displaced and living in make-shift camps
- Health:- medical care and supplies, including vector controls and epidemiological surveillance
- Emergency rehabilitation:- damaged housing and health infrastructure
- Food and food security:- distribution of family food packages, nutrition, seeds and tools
- Non-food items:- kitchen sets, essential household items, clothes and tools to rebuild fishing boats
- Livelihoods and revenue generating activities:- livestock, emergency agricultural rehabilitation, short-term agricultural inputs, fishing, crafts and trades

N.B. Transport and logistics will be of importance to all operations.

The European Commission will not set up any new DG ECHO support offices, but DG ECHO's Caribbean office in Santo Domingo will provide technical assistance to appraise project proposals and to monitor humanitarian operations financed by the Commission. EC Delegations are establishing how current 9th EDF funds can be mobilised to assist hurricane victims, ensuring a quick transition from relief to reconstruction.

3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration of humanitarian aid operations shall be for 6 months maximum.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 17 August 2007.

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 humanitarian aid operations.

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. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in Belize/Dominica/Haiti/Jamaica/Saint Lucia in the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria		DG ECHO	7,660,000		
Belgium		Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic					
Denmark					
Estonia					
Finland					
France	400,000				
Germany	39,615				
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland					
Italy	650,000				
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg					
Malta					
Netherlands					
Poland					
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain	700,000				
Sweden	710,034				
United kingdom					
Subtotal	2,499,649	Subtotal	7,660,000	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	10,159,649		

Dated : 24 August 2007

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://hac.ec.europa.eu>

Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

N.B. Many donors are responding to the current crisis, but their response has not yet been reported to this database.

6 - Amount of decision and distribution by specific objective:

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: EUR 3,000,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objective

Principal objective: <i>To save and preserve lives during the emergency caused by Hurricane Dean in the Caribbean region</i>			
Specific objective	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Potential partners⁴
Specific objective 1: To provide multi-sectoral emergency relief and recovery assistance to hurricane victims	3,000,000	Belize Dominica Haiti Jamaica Saint Lucia	- CR-E - CR-F - CR - NOR - FAO - IFRC-FICR - OXFAM GB - PAHO - UNICEF
TOTAL: 3,000,000			

⁴ CROIX-ROUGE FRANCAISE, CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA, (E), INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES, NORGES RODE KORS (NORWEGIAN RED CROSS), OXFAM (GB), UNICEF, UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION, UNITED NATIONS - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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 DG 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://ec.europa.eu/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm.

8 – Management Issues

Humanitarian aid actions funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs, Specialised Agencies of the Member States, and the Red Cross organisations on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) and by United Nations agencies based on the EC/UN Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation. These Framework agreements define the criteria for attributing grant agreements and financing agreements in accordance with Article 90 of the Implementing Rules and may be found at http://europa.eu/comm/echo/partners/index_en.htm.

Individual grants are awarded on the basis of the criteria enumerated in Article 7.2 of the Humanitarian Aid Regulation, such as the technical and financial capacity, readiness and experience, and results of previous interventions.