

COMMISSION DECISION
of
on the financing of emergency humanitarian operations from the general budget of the
European Communities in Peru

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 aid¹, and in particular Article 13 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An earthquake registering 8.0 on the Richter scale struck the department of Ica in Southern Peru on 15 August 2007 at 18h40 local time (August 16, 01h40 Brussels time). The earthquake lasted for two minutes and has been followed by more than 500 aftershocks, 40 of which measured more than 4 on the Richter scale.
- (2) The most affected provinces are Pisco, Ica and Chincha (in the department of Ica) and Cañete province (department of Lima). The latest estimates report that 519 people were killed and 1,844 injured. Massive damage and destruction to housing and infrastructure are reported (houses destroyed: 58,889, houses heavily damaged: 21,277), which left 390,000 people homeless. Electricity and water services have also been interrupted and people are facing food shortages.
- (3) Preliminary assessments conducted by humanitarian actors on the ground have shown that the affected population is in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.
- (4) Humanitarian aid operations financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 6 months
- (5) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 6,000,000 from budget line 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to over 200,000 victims of the earthquake, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors.
- (6) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002², Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002³, and Article 15 of the Internal Rules on the Implementation of the general budget of the European Communities⁴.

¹ OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6

² OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006, OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p.1

³ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1 Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC Euratom) No. 478/2007, OJ L 111 of 28.4.2007, P. 13

⁴ Commission Decision of 21.02.2007, C/2007/513

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 6,000,000 for emergency humanitarian aid operations to provide the necessary assistance and relief to victims of the earthquake of 15 August in Peru by using line 23 02 01 of the 2007 general budget of the European Communities.

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 assist the victims of the earthquake with integrated relief support.

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 shall be eligible from 15 August 2007.

3. 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

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 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

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission



Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision

23 02 01

Title: Emergency assistance to the victims of the earthquake of 15 August in Peru

Location of operation: Peru

Amount of Decision: EUR 6,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/PER/BUD/2007/02000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale:

An earthquake registering 8.0⁵ on the Richter scale struck the department of Ica in Southern Peru⁶ on 15 August 2007 at 18h40 local time (August 16, 01h40 Brussels time). According to the US Geological Survey, the epicentre was at 30.2 km depth, 161 km south/southeast of Lima. The earthquake lasted for two minutes and has been followed by more than 500 aftershocks, 40 of which measured more than 4 on the Richter scale. The latest aftershock was registered on August 23 at 04h45 local time, measuring 4.8 on the Richter scale.

The size of the affected area is 30,000 km². From north to south, the affected areas are the provinces of Yauco, Cañete, Chincha, Pisco, Ica and some provinces of the Andean Departments of Huancavelica (Castrovirreyna and Huaytara) and Ayacucho (Lucanas, Parinacocha and Paucar Sarasara). The most affected provinces are Pisco, Ica and Chincha (in the department of Ica) and Cañete province (department of Lima).

The latest estimates report that the earthquake affected approximately 390,000 people. According to last report dated September 01 issued by the Peruvian government body in charge of emergencies (Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil –INDECI), the situation in the most affected provinces is as follows:

⁵ Source: US Geological Survey

⁶ This earthquake occurred at the boundary between the Nazca and South American tectonic plates. The two plates are converging at a rate of 77 mm per year. The earthquake occurred as thrust-faulting on the interface between the two plates, with the South American plate moving up and seaward over the Nazca plate.

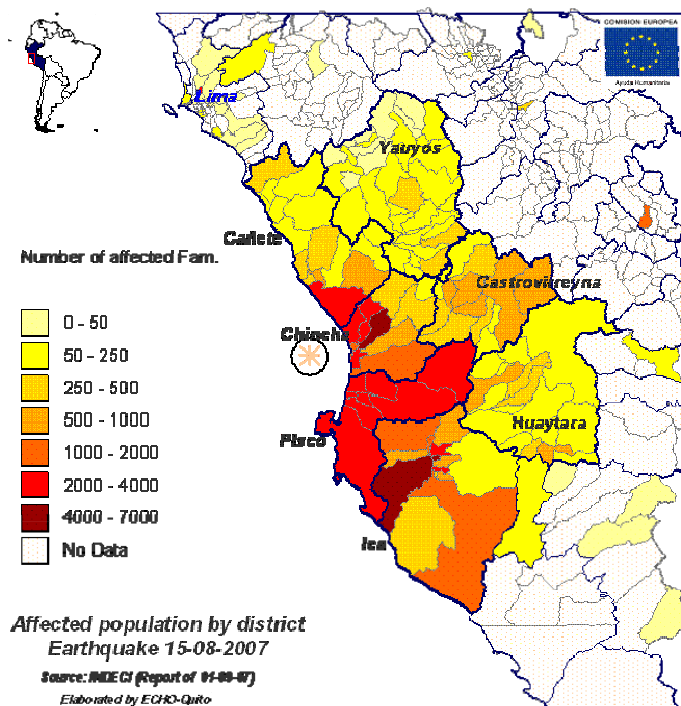
Death already officially certified	519
Injured	1,844
Houses destroyed	58,889
Houses affected	21,277
Hospitals destroyed	11
Hospitals affected	111

On top of that, a total of 73 schools were destroyed and 511 affected. School classes have been suspended until further notice.

INDECI estimates that at least 85% of housing of the historical city centre of Pisco has been destroyed, electricity and water services have been interrupted and people are facing shortages in the food supply.

In the province of Ica, 60% of houses in poor areas have been destroyed.

70% of houses collapsed in Chincha⁷, and serious limitations in the provision of electricity and water are reported.



The scale of the natural disaster was compounded by man-made failure to build earthquake resistant structures. The earthquake massively destroyed adobe houses, which account for the majority of houses in rural or poor areas. Most of the private homes used low-quality building materials and many public buildings also collapsed because of poor building standards. Furthermore, the devastation caused by the earthquake was partially due to the fact that basic mitigation measures were unknown to the population or not practiced in these communities. This calls for Disaster Risk Reduction measures to be taken into account in the emergency and reconstruction response.

According to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), Huancavelica, Ayacucho and the province of Yauyos in Lima department, located in the Andean highlands, had already suffered from the loss of their main crops and livestock due to the extreme cold temperatures between February and June 2007, and the earthquake further aggravated the already food insecure situation of these people. During the last week of August, strong winds and windstorms (known as Paracas winds) started striking the affected area, causing a sharp decrease in temperature (close to 0°). In the province of Huancavelica, the local Civil Defense confirmed that because of the low temperatures during the winter season, a growing number of children are suffering from respiratory diseases. According to the Ministry of

⁷ Source : UNOCHA sitrep n°12

health, 49.5% of cases treated in health centres relate to ARI (Acute Respiratory Infection)⁸ which is significantly higher than during an average year. UN field assessments also confirm an increase in skin and eye diseases in children and adults in the Pisco and Ica areas, due to the accumulation of dust and dirt in the area⁹.

The recurrence of aftershocks at least once a day since 15 August 2007 has led to stress and increased tension among the population. Some families prefer to sleep outdoors in fear of new aftershocks. Amid the chaos of the earthquake, where entire communities have been devastated, the most vulnerable (children, adolescent girls and women) are highly exposed to stress and at highest risk of exploitation. The UN assessment team deployed in the region of Pisco reports the rise in psychological illness among the affected population, in particular among children¹⁰.

Initial security problems (interception of aid delivery, looting) have diminished due to the clearly improved presence of police and military in the affected areas but some Humanitarian Organizations¹¹ have warned about the security risk, in particular theft, of moving out of main roads.

The Peruvian government officially requested support from the international community on August 17 and declared a state of emergency for 60 days in the Ica province.

DG ECHO¹² reacted very promptly to the disaster and a first funding Decision for humanitarian aid of EUR 2,000,000 was taken the day following the disaster to help meet the initial needs of the victims. DG ECHO has maintained a continuous presence in the field since the disaster to closely monitor the humanitarian situation.

1.2. - Identified needs:

Two weeks after the disaster, the humanitarian consequences are far beyond what was initially estimated¹³ and the affected people still depend entirely on humanitarian aid for their survival. A significant percentage of the affected population is still living under conditions well below Sphere¹⁴ standards, mainly in terms of shelter and sanitation:

More than 250,000 people who have lost their belongings and houses remain displaced without appropriate shelter, or are relocated in temporary shelters with limited access to basic water and sanitation facilities¹⁵. It is confirmed that in the Ica and Pisco areas, shelters do not meet common standards for provisional camps, especially in terms of hygiene and overcrowding¹⁶. A high number of families are still living in the streets, in very precarious conditions, using straw mattresses and blankets as covers at night to keep them warm from the cool winter temperatures.¹⁷

This extremely precarious situation may deteriorate considering the high epidemiological risk for public health due to the potential development of diarrhoeal diseases related to the lack/contamination of existing water sources and the absence of proper sanitation systems in most of the affected areas.

⁸ As reported by UNOCHA Sitrep n°12

⁹ Source : UNOCHA Sitrep n°12 and 13

¹⁰ Source : UNOCHA Sitrep n°13

¹¹ WFP and ECHO Field visit of 31/8/07

¹² DG ECHO : Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid

¹³ According to UN Flash Appeal

¹⁴ Minimum Standards in Disaster Response

¹⁵ Source : ACF 30/8/07 and ECHO assessment

¹⁶ Source : UNOCHA Sitrep n°13

¹⁷ Source : World Vision

The affected population needs immediate assistance to access basic services and to restore their livelihoods. Beyond the significant damage and destruction of houses, potable water systems have been severely disrupted and need to be urgently rehabilitated. Irrigation systems have also been highly damaged (often located in the hillsides, irrigations systems have been buried by landslides, or have been damaged as a result of rocks blockage).

The means deployed by the Government, local organizations and the international community have been significant, but insufficient to cover the basic needs of the population during the immediate life-saving phase.

According to a recent WFP assessment, approximately 90% of the emergency response has been concentrated in Pisco, especially in urban areas, which shows that suburban and rural areas have been somewhat overlooked. Humanitarian aid is only partially reaching the rural areas and the highlands of the provinces of Castrovirreyna and Chincha. Due to the difficulties following the earthquake to access the rural and most remote areas, the damage evaluation process led by the Civil Defense has been greatly slowed down, which partially explains the uneven distribution of aid and its concentration in the urban and coastal areas. Coordination between key government organizations and stakeholders also took some time to become effective, partly because of large media attention and political interference in the response management. This lack of coordination during the first weeks of the disaster has made the gathering of information in a centralized manner a very complex issue. A number of areas are still to be assessed and the government has announced that an official census will be carried out in the affected areas in order to register people affected by the disaster¹⁸. Initial estimates will not be available before September 10.

INDECI has now formed and leads an inter-sector Emergency Operation Centre that allows for better decision making and a more efficient use of available resources. At UN level, eleven sector working groups have been formed to organize the response¹⁹.

The picture that emerges is that the most acute needs, and therein gaps in the assistance, are in the shelter, water and sanitation and food sectors:

Shelter

According to the assessments carried out, at least 390,000 people have either lost or suffered serious damage to their houses as a consequence of the earthquake. The majority of the affected population has decided to stay near their damaged houses and live in the street in order to prevent looting. The Civil Defense officially requested at least 40,000 tents, given the fact that its emergency stock of tents had been almost used up during the recent cold wave.²⁰

In a first phase, the priority is the provision of emergency shelter (tarpaulins, tents and related non-food items). Given the lack of tents in the region and the need to urgently provide adequate shelter to homeless people, transitional shelter for the affected population is an alternative to be envisaged. An appropriate response would be the distribution of a shelter kit containing construction tools and basic building material, which the beneficiaries can use together with material recycled from their collapsed or damaged houses.

¹⁸ The government has requested the INEI (National Institute of Statistic) to conduct this census with UNFPA assistance.

¹⁹ Source: UN Flash Appeal. IOM (shelter and camp management), WFP (Food), WHO (Health), WHO and UNICEF (Water and sanitation), UNESCO (Education), UNICEF (Protection), UNDP (early recovery), WFP (Temporary employment), UNDSS (Safety and security) UNDP (Coordination), IT/Telecommunications (WFP)

²⁰ Source : BBC news 30/8/07

Food

Distribution of food during the first three months of the earthquake is needed to avoid a further deterioration of the food security situation of affected families who lost their homes and means of subsistence during the disaster. The UN agency in charge of this sector estimates that after 90 days of food distribution, Food for Work will be an appropriate way of supporting people to recover their livelihoods, promote self reliance and move away from dependency on food aid as soon as possible.

In parallel, the promotion of short-term emergency agricultural activities (distribution of seeds, agricultural inputs and tools) will help to restore livelihoods further to the loss of seeds and working tools²¹ in rural families where the main source of subsistence remains agriculture²².

Water and sanitation

The earthquake severely damaged the water systems, leaving people with little access to clean water and sanitation facilities. There is an urgent need to ensure access to safe water and basic sanitation facilities according to minimum humanitarian standards.

Most of the damage and losses in the water and sanitation sector was suffered by private infrastructure in rural areas. Water shortage and insufficient number of latrines are reported.

If the next harvest is not to be put at risk, irrigation channels are in urgent need of repair, as agriculture is often the sole sustenance activity for rural families.

In terms of sanitation, family structures have been destroyed and the situation is precarious. But the sanitation situation is worse in the temporary shelters. The lack of toilets has led the people to defecate in open fields, turning sanitation into a real concern because of the related health risks.

Health

The WHO assessment²³ of the most affected areas reports that the main areas of concern for the immediate future are:

- Risk of emergence of communicable diseases as a consequence of poor sanitation and subsequent need to put in place an epidemiological surveillance system that can provide early warning,
- Restoration of health services,
- Water quality assurance,
- Environmental health.

Most of the needs described above are already well covered in the UN appeal and therefore this Decision will not target this sector.

²¹ Seeds and tools are stored in private houses and have been destroyed with the collapse of houses

²² Province of Yauyos in the Lima Region

²³ Source : UN Flash Appeal

Coordination

As mentioned earlier, there is a need to strengthen coordination at field level to ensure the optimum distribution and use of available resources coming into the country and ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are fully met. As the UNDAC²⁴ team deployed to the country is ending its mission, OCHA²⁵ has been requested to take over and ensure a continuing liaison with the government and local authorities, INDECI, APCI²⁶ and international donors and a smooth transition from the immediate life saving phase to the emergency phase.

Protection of groups at risk

Formal education has been suspended because of the earthquake. Children have suffered from the traumatic experience of having lost a relative and/or their house and belongings. Psycho-social support and specific recreational activities are needed as soon as possible to help them to cope with this experience.

Furthermore, the most vulnerable groups (women, elderly, disabled) should be supported to help them to cope with the challenge of responding to and recuperating from the disaster through psychological, legal, medical services.

Disaster preparedness

In order to enhance the population's level of preparedness, and therefore avoid disproportionate losses in the case of natural disasters, awareness-raising and training activities need to be undertaken. These should involve the local communities, community-based organizations and authorities so as to achieve maximum impact in terms of collective risk reduction. Improvements in disaster preparedness are particularly important since Peru is a highly disaster prone country. These actions will complement the ongoing disaster preparedness activities currently being implemented in other regions through DG ECHO's DIPECHO²⁷ programme and the PREDECAN project²⁸.

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

This Decision will target 200,000 people badly affected by the earthquake of 15 August. Priority will be given to people left homeless and who have lost their livelihoods as a result of the earthquake.

The majority of the target population live in Ica, Chincha and Pisco provinces, where the impact of the disaster was highly concentrated but the regions of Huancavelica, Ayacucho and Lima will also be targeted, with a focus on the Andean part. Particular attention will be given through this Decision to people located in rural and suburban areas.

DG ECHO will ensure that the most vulnerable groups (women, children) are protected and receive the special attention they deserve to recover from such a traumatic situation.

²⁴ UNDAC: The United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination

²⁵ OCHA: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

²⁶ APCI : La Agencia Peruana de Cooperación Internacional (Peru International Cooperation Agency)

²⁷ Disaster Preparedness ECHO

²⁸ "Disaster Prevention in the Andean Community" co-funded by EC (EUR 9,600,000) under the 2002-2006 Andean Community (CAN) Regional Strategy Paper.

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

There are three main risks that could affect the implementation of the Decision:

- Harsh climatic conditions could further deteriorate the humanitarian situation within the homeless population and increase the risk of acute respiratory diseases.
- Aftershocks of a lesser magnitude are still occurring, indicating that there is still a degree of risk. This could not only result in additional needs, but also disrupt the implementation of relief operations funded under this Decision.
- The lack of security due to the chaotic context has also to be considered. Another limit could be the hostile attitudes of the population if aid is not forthcoming.

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. - Objectives:

This Decision builds on and complements the ongoing primary emergency Decision adopted by the European Commission following the disaster.

Principal objective:

To save and preserve the life of the population of Peru affected by the earthquake of 15 August in Peru.

Specific objective:

To assist the victims of the earthquake with integrated relief support.

2.2. - Components:

This Decision will focus on providing access to shelter, food and water and sanitation for the affected population, as these are among the sectors in which humanitarian needs have been assessed to be the most acute. In addition, prompt actions covering existing gaps in the coordination, protection and Disaster Preparedness sectors will also be supported. The following actions will be put in place per sector:

Shelter /Non Food Items

- Provision of tents and emergency shelter,
- Distribution of emergency shelter material (plastic sheeting tarpaulins, blankets, bamboo mats, shovels, pickaxes, tools for clearing rubble),
- Care and maintenance of shelter camps,
- Distribution of non food items (Survival kits, basic household items, kitchen sets, cooking utensils).

Food and food security

- Provision of emergency food aid,
- Food for work as a means to recover livelihoods, regain dignity and their own coping mechanisms (community and agricultural works, clearance of debris...),
- Provision of agricultural inputs to support the recovery of livelihoods.

Water and sanitation

- Emergency rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities,
- Provision of safe water supply (water distribution, water treatment, restoration of water systems) and activities restoring minimal sanitary and hygiene conditions (latrines, provision of hygiene kits),
- Emergency rehabilitation of irrigation systems.

Coordination

- Facilitate the coordination of the humanitarian organizations in place in support of local authorities.

Protection of the most vulnerable population (children and women)

- Child protection, support and recreation for children through creation and equipment of temporary safe spaces in shelter camps,
- Psycho social support for traumatized survivors, notably children.

Disaster Preparedness

- Awareness-raising and training for local communities, community-based organizations and authorities.

3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision:

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

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from **15 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.

4 - Previous interventions/Decisions of the Commission within the context of the current crisis

DG ECHO has adopted a two-fold strategy in Peru. On the one hand, DG ECHO responds to emergencies where the national response capacity cannot adequately cope with the scope of the disaster or when national authorities are unwilling to respond. (For example, in 2004 during the cold wave EUR 1,900,000 was allocated and in 2001 during the earthquake EUR 3,150,000). On the other hand, efforts have been made to identify the geographical areas most vulnerable to natural hazards (and with the poorest population) and, subsequently, to prioritize the implementation of disaster preparedness projects in those areas. This process is carried out in a participatory way with key national and international actors, both governmental and non-governmental, in the framework of the DIPECHO programme. In Peru, DG ECHO has invested more than EUR 14,000,000 since 1999 to help the country and the vulnerable communities to prepare themselves to face natural disasters. Under the forthcoming DIPECHO Action Plan for South America (ECHO/DIP/BUD/2007/03000, EUR 6,500,000, budget line 23.02.03), 5 projects for an estimated amount of EUR 1,000,000 are envisaged to support disaster preparedness efforts in Peru, though not necessarily in the regions which will benefit from this funding Decision. The PREDECAN project, with a clear focus on prevention, complements the DIPECHO programme and contributes to a Disaster Risk Reduction strategy in the Andean Region.

To respond to the current crisis, a Primary Emergency Decision of EUR 2,000,000 was adopted one day after the disaster struck to enable 6 partners to provide immediate emergency relief in the most affected areas.

The EU's Civil Protection Mechanism (MIC) was also activated and sent a team to Peru to assess the situation on the ground. Finally, no action was delivered through the mechanism.

DG RELEX is closely monitoring the situation in Peru and is attentive to the country's reconstruction needs following this catastrophe. The Peruvian government has obtained from Congress the creation of a reconstruction fund (FORSUR) with an initial sum of PEN 100,000,000. The Peruvian government is currently assessing needs and setting up the first reconstruction projects. In the event of Peru requesting aid from the international community, the Commission (DG RELEX) will consider how best it could contribute to the reconstruction efforts in the light of the available instruments and resources as well as taking into account the nature and scope of the needs.

Given national capacity and contributions by other donors, DG ECHO's response to the emergency humanitarian needs includes an exit strategy.

List of previous DG ECHO operations in Peru				
Decision Number	Decision Type	2005 EUR	2006 EUR	2007 EUR
ECHO/PER/BUD/2007/01000	Prim. Emergency			2,000,000
	Subtotal	0	0	2,000,000
	Grand Total	2,000,000		

Dated : 04 September 2007
Source : HOPE

5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in Peru the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria		DG ECHO			
Belgium		Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic	176,678				
Denmark					
Estonia					
Finland					
France	295,000				
Germany	376,750				
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland					
Italy	430,200				
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg					
Malta					
Netherlands					
Poland					
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain	500,000				
Sweden	505,006				
United kingdom					
Subtotal	2,283,634	Subtotal		Subtotal	0
		Grand total	2,283,634		

Dated : 04 September 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.

6 - Amount of decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: EUR 6,000,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

Principal objective: <i>To save and preserve the life of the population affected by the earthquake of 15 August in Peru</i>			
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Potential partners²⁹
Specific objective 1: To assist the victims of the earthquake with integrated relief support	6,000,000	Provinces affected by the earthquake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACH - CARE NL - CORDAID - CR-E - CR - NLD - FAO - GERMAN AGRO ACTION - IOM - OCHA - OIKOS - SC (UK) - SI - UNFPA - WFP-PAM - WVD
TOTAL: 6,000,000			

²⁹ ACCION CONTRA EL HAMBRE, (ESP), CATHOLIC ORGANISATION FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT AID (NLD), CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA, (E), DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE / GERMAN AGRO ACTION, (DEU), HET NEDERLANDSE RODE KRUIS (NLD), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT), OIKOS - COOPERAÇÃO E DESENVOLVIMENTO, SOLIDARIDAD INTERNACIONAL, (E), Stichting CARE Nederland, THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND (GBR), UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION, UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, WORLD VISION, (DEU)

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 - Budget Impact article 23 02 01

	CE (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2007	485,000,000.00
Supplementary Budgets	-
Transfers	-
Total Available Credits	485,000,000.00
Total executed to date (by 4 September 2007)	412,275,694.95
Available remaining	72,724,305.05
Total amount of the Decision	6,000,000

9. 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://ec.europa.eu/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.