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Draft

COMMISSION DECISION

of [...]

on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian actions from the general budget of the European Communities in Haiti (ECHO/HTI/BUD/2008/02000)

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 aid ¹, and in particular Article 2(a) and Article 13 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 2 September 2008 Hurricane Hanna reverted to Tropical Storm Hanna and hovered above the island of Hispaniola, dumping heavy rains on the island, especially on Haiti.
- (2) Haiti had suffered serious damage from Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricane Gustav in the previous two weeks.
- (3) The rains brought by Hanna caused additional floods and mudslides, affecting most of the country.
- (4) On 3 September it became possible to fly over the worst affected areas, and the full extent of Hanna's impact became known
- (5) On 3 September Haiti's Minister of Planning and External Assistance made a request for international assistance for approximately one million people.
- (6) Victims are in urgent need of water, food, medical assistance, emergency shelter and relief items.
- (7) The duration of humanitarian aid actions financed by this Decision will be of a maximum of 3 months.
- (8) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 2,000,000 from budget line 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to 100,000 victims of Hurricane Hanna in Haiti, taking into account the available budget; other donors' interventions and other factors.
- (9) 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

¹ I- OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1. Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1882/2003 (OJ L 284, 31.10.2003, p. 1).

² OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1525/2007 of 17 December 2007, OJ L 343 of 27.12.2007, p. 9.

Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002³, and Article 15 of the Internal Rules on the Implementation of the general budget of the European Communities⁴.

(10) 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 2,000,000 for primary emergency humanitarian aid actions to provide the necessary assistance and relief to hurricane Hanna victims in Haiti from budget line 23 02 01 of the 2008 general budget of the European Communities.
2. In accordance with article 2(a) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian actions shall be implemented in pursuance of the following specific objectives:
 - - To provide multi-sector emergency assistance to hurricane Hanna victims

The total amount of this Decision is allocated to this objective

Article 2

1. The implementation of humanitarian aid actions funded by this Decision shall have a maximum duration of 3 months from their start date.
2. Expenditure under this Decision is eligible from 3 September 2008.
3. If the actions 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 actions.

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.

Article 4

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

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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

4-Commission Decision of 5.3.2008, C/2008/773

Done at Brussels, [...]

For the Commission

[...]

Member of the Commission

Primary Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision

23 02 01

Title: Emergency humanitarian aid for people affected by Hurricane Hanna in Haiti

Location of action: Haiti

Amount of Decision: EUR 2,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/HTI/BUD/2008/02000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale :

On 1 September 2008 Tropical Storm Hanna became the fourth hurricane of the Atlantic season. On 2 September Hurricane Hanna weakened to become Tropical Storm Hanna again, and hovered above the island of Hispaniola, dumping heavy rains on the island, especially on Haiti. 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 Haiti for an assessment mission. Haiti was affected by Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricane Gustav in the previous two weeks. The rains brought by Hanna caused additional floods and mudslides, affecting most of the country. Airports were shut and roads inaccessible, but on 3 September the ECHO expert joined a flight assessment over Gonaïves, capital of Artibonite department in western Haiti, and one of the worst affected places. This was the date when the full impact of Hanna became known and can be regarded as the start of the current emergency. Emergency assessment and response systems were activated by the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Co-ordination team (UNDAC), Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies (IFRC) and Telecoms sans Frontières (TSF). On 3 September Haiti's Minister of Planning and External Assistance made a request for international assistance to the UN Resident Representative, stating that eight out of ten departments were severely affected and approximately one million people required assistance. Apart from loss of lives (at least 79), thousands of houses, fields, roads and infrastructure were destroyed.

1.2. - Identified needs :

Information on identified needs comes from DG ECHO's expert assessment plus the UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), Oxfam-International, PAHO and IFRC.

Assessments indicate needs in the following sectors:

- Shelter
- Water
- Sanitation

- Health
- Logistics
- Food
- Food security
- Non-food relief items
- Emergency tele-communications

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned :

The whole country is affected, and 1 million people (out of a total population of 8.5 million) are seriously affected. Over 80,000 people are in shelters, without adequate supplies, whilst an unknown number is in relatives' homes.

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints :

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 in the emergency caused by Hurricane Hanna in Haiti**

Specific objective:

- To provide multi-sector emergency 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 (risk of malaria, dengue, leptospirosis, diarrhoea, respiratory and skin infections)
- Health:- medical care and supplies, including vector controls and epidemiological surveillance
- Food and food security:- distribution of family food packages, nutrition, seeds and tools
- Non-food items:- kitchen sets, essential household items and clothes
- Emergency tele-communications:- assistance with telephone, fax and computer connections

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

3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration of humanitarian aid actions shall be for 3 months maximum.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 3 September 2008.

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 actions.

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 HAITI the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria	250,000	DG ECHO	7,000,000		
Belgium	462,000	Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic					
Denmark					
Estonia					
Finland					
France	1,250,000				
Germany	98,500				
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland	550,000				
Italy	150,000				
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg					
Malta					
Netherlands					
Poland					
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain	2,856,500				
Sweden	1,462,670				
United kingdom					
Subtotal	7,079,670	Subtotal	7,000,000	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	14,079,670		

Dated : 05 September 2008

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

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

N.B. Other 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 objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the Decision: EUR 2,000,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

Principal objective: <i>To save and preserve lives in the emergency caused by Hurricane Hanna in Haiti</i>			
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Potential partners⁵
Specific objective 1: To provide multi-sector emergency assistance to Hurricane Hanna victims		Haiti	- CR-E - OXFAM GB - TSF - UNICEF - WFP-PAM
TOTAL:2,000,000			

⁵ CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA, (E), OXFAM (GB), TELECOMS SANS FRONTIERES, UNICEF, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

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 actions financed by the Community in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent actions." 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

-	EC (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2008	486,095,000.00
Additional Appropriation	4,154,999.38
Transfers	40,000,000.00
Total Available Credits	530,249,999.38
Total executed to date (by 5.09.2008)	445,761,319.30
Amount remaining available	84,488,680.08
Total amount of the Decision	2,000,000