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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES



Brussels, 30-V-2008 C(2008) 2389

COMMISSION DECISION

of 30-V-2008

on the financing of a global plan for humanitarian operations from the budget of the European communities in Nepal

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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 2 and Article 15(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Nepal is emerging from 10 years of internal conflict that left an estimated 13,000 dead, hundreds of thousands internally displaced and over 800 officially missing;
- (2) Although the conflict is now officially over, the country's institutions remain fragile and the political and security climate are still volatile, with new foci of violence erupting;
- (3) Many people still need protection, both against recent violence and, for those internally displaced, to be able to re-integrate into the society;
- (4) The provision of vital social services such as health, water and sanitation is still unavailable in rural parts of the country most affected by the conflict;
- (5) Nepal has a serious malnutrition situation, in which 50% of children below the age of five are underweight, 65% stunted, 13% acutely malnourished and 60% of rural households are unable to produce enough food to meet their basic needs;
- (6) It is necessary to provide a coherent framework for action as the scale and complexity of the humanitarian crisis is such that it seems likely to continue;
- (7) An assessment of the humanitarian situation indicates that humanitarian aid operations should be financed by the European Communities for a period of 18 months;
- (8) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 4,500,000 from budget line 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to over 700,000 conflict afflicted persons, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors;
- (9) The present Decision constitutes a financing decision in the sense 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,

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⁻ OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6

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 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. and by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1525/2007 of 17 December 2007, OJ L 343 of 27.12.2007, p. 9.

- Euratom) No 2342/2002³ and Article 15 of the Internal Rules of the Implementation of the General Budget of the European Communities⁴.
- (10) In accordance with Article 17 (3) of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid, the Humanitarian Aid Committee gave a favourable opinion on

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

- 1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves an amount of EUR 4,500,000 for a Global Plan for Humanitarian aid for Conflict-affected people in Nepal from article 23 02 01 of the 2008 general budget of the European Communities.
- 2. In accordance with Article 2 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:
 - To provide humanitarian support to the rural population of Nepal affected by the conflict, in particular women and children, in the areas of health and water and sanitation.
 - To provide protection to the population of Nepal affected by the conflict, in particular returning IDPs, women and children.

The amounts allocated to each of these specific objectives are listed in the annex to this Decision

Article 2

The Commission may, where this is justified by the humanitarian situation, re-allocate the funding levels established for one of the specific objectives set out in Article 1(2) to another objective mentioned therein, provided that the re-allocated amount represents less than 20% of the global amount covered by this Decision and does not exceed EUR 2,000,000.

Article 3

- 1. The duration of the implementation of this Decision shall be for a period of 18 months, starting on 01 June 2008.
- 2. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 01 June 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 implementation of this Decision.

Article 4

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

4 Commission Decision of 21.2.2007, C/2007/513

³ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 478 of 23 April 2007 (OJ L 111, 28.4.2007, p. 13.)

- 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 5

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

Done at Brussels, 30-V-2008

For the Commission
Günter Verheugen
Member of the Commission

ANNEX

Breakdown of allocations by specific objectives

Specific objectives	Amount per specific objective (EUR)
To provide humanitarian support to the rural population of Nepal affected by the conflict, in particular women and children, in the areas of health and water and sanitation	3,210,000
To provide protection to the population of Nepal affected by the conflict, in particular returning IDPs, women and children	1,290,000
TOTAL	4,500,000