



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels  
C(2009) XXX final

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of**

**on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in the Philippines from  
the general budget of the European Communities**

(ECHO/PHL/BUD/2009/02000)

## COMMISSION DECISION

of

### on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in the Philippines from the general budget of the European Communities

(ECHO/PHL/BUD/2009/02000)

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<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Articles 2(a) and 4 and Article 13 thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) Tropical storm Ondoy hit the Philippines on 26 and 27 September, bringing continuous heavy rains (455 mm in 24 hours) which caused widespread flooding to Metro Manila and nearby areas;
- (2) The massive flooding forced more than 600,000 people to displacement in evacuation centres or in makeshift shelters; 240 people died and 37 are missing;
- (3) Victims are in urgent need of food, water and sanitation, non food items, emergency shelter; medical assistance and support to communications also have to be provided, together with any other assistance deemed necessary;
- (4) To reach populations in need, humanitarian aid should be channelled through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and International Organisations including United Nations (UN) agencies. Therefore the European Commission should implement the budget by direct centralized management or by joint management;
- (5) Humanitarian aid Actions financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 3 months;
- (6) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 2,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to people affected by the tropical storm, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors. The activities covered by this Decision may be financed in full in accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation;

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1.

- (7) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002<sup>2</sup>, Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002<sup>3</sup>, and Article 15 of the internal rules on the implementation of the general budget of the European Communities<sup>4</sup>.

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 the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in the Philippines from budget article 23.02.01 of the 2009 general budget of the European Communities.
2. In accordance with Articles 2(a) and 4 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the principal objective of this Decision is to provide primary emergency assistance to people affected by tropical storms and typhoons in the Philippines. The humanitarian Actions shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective:
  - To provide life saving integrated assistance to people affected by tropical storms and typhoons in the Philippines.

The full amount of this Decision is allocated to this specific objective.

*Article 2*

1. The period for the implementation of the Actions financed under this Decision shall start on 27 September 2009. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from the same date. The duration of individual humanitarian aid Actions financed under this Decision shall be limited to a maximum of three months.
2. If the implementation of individual actions is suspended owing to force majeure or other exceptional circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account in the implementing period of the Decision in respect of the Action suspended.
3. In accordance with the contractual provisions ruling the Agreements financed under this Decision, the Commission may consider eligible those costs arising and incurred after the end of the implementing period of the Action which are necessary for its winding-up.

*Article 3*

1. In accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules and having regard to the urgency of the Action, the availability of other donors and other relevant operational circumstances, funds under this Decision may finance humanitarian Actions in full.

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<sup>2</sup> OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, , p.1.

<sup>4</sup> Commission Decision of 5.3.2008, C/2008/773

2. Actions supported by this Decision will be implemented either by Non-profit-making organisations which fulfil the eligibility and suitability criteria established in Article 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96, or International organisations.
3. The Commission shall implement the budget:
  - either by direct centralised management, with Non-governmental Organisations;
  - or by joint management with international organisations that are signatories to the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) or the EC/UN Financial Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) and which were subject to the four pillar assessment in line with Article 53d of the Financial Regulation

*Article 4*

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

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission  
Member of the Commission*



**Primary Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision**  
**23 02 01**

**Title:** Decision on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in the Philippines from the general budget of the European Communities.

**Description:** Primary emergency assistance for tropical storm and typhoon-affected populations in the Philippines.

**Location of Action:** the Philippines

**Amount of Decision:** EUR 2,000,000

**Decision reference number:** ECHO/PHL/BUD/2009/02000

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**Supporting Document**

**1 - Rationale, needs and target population.**

1.1. - Rationale:

On 26 and 27 September 2009, tropical storm Ondoy (international name Ketsana) struck the northern Philippines. The continuous heavy rains (455 mm in 24 hours) brought by the tropical storm have caused widespread flooding to Metro Manila and nearby areas. It is estimated that the downpour was equivalent to the normal rainfall of the whole month of September. This is the fourth weather disturbance to hit the country in September, compared to two or three in other years.

By 29 September, the Government of the Philippines (GoP) estimated that a total of 374,890 persons were hosted in 607 evacuation centres throughout the affected area and the number of affected people reached 1,872,000 persons. Another 235,000 people were displaced outside evacuation centres. More than 12,000 persons had to be rescued by emergency services, as they were stranded on their rooftops, on top of their cars, floating on debris, etc. Casualties are estimated at 240 dead, 37 missing and 5 injured. Close to 3,400 houses have been damaged.

The GoP, through a letter from Gilberto Teodoro, Secretary of the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) to the UN Resident Coordinator, Jacquie Badcock, appealed for the assistance of the international humanitarian community.

The GoP is worried that their response capacity could be severely affected by another weather disturbance which is bound to hit the country during the week beginning 28 September.

The situation of the people living close to river banks is especially of concern. Many of them have lost all their belongings.

#### 1.2. - Identified needs:

People often left their homes with nothing else than the clothes they were wearing. People in evacuation camps (schools, barangay halls, etc) lack proper water and sanitation, clothes, non food items such as blankets and mats, cooking utensils, shelter items, food, medicines and women items and any other relief assistance deemed necessary. Medical assistance is also needed, including for pregnant women.

Evacuation centres will need to be reinforced in order to enhance their capacity, in order to provide the displaced with services according to international standards. Logistics, including telecommunications and coordination have to be enhanced.

#### 1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

The regions affected by tropical storm Ondoy are the northern Philippines, but Maguindanao and Sultan Kudarat, in Mindanao, have also been affected.

This operation will mainly target people in evacuation camps and vulnerable people severely affected by the storm.

#### 1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

The rainy season could hamper the delivery of relief. Other weather disturbances are to be expected during the implementation of this operation.

The security situation in the regions affected is normally good, except for Mindanao, where the current conflict between MILF<sup>1</sup> and AFP<sup>2</sup>, clan feuds, etc generate a tense security situation which might impact on the operations.

## **2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:**

### 2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective:

To provide primary emergency assistance to people affected by tropical storms and typhoons in the Philippines.

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<sup>1</sup> MILF – Moro Islamic Liberation Front

<sup>2</sup> AFP – Armed Forces of the Philippines

Specific objective:

To provide life saving integrated assistance to people affected by tropical storms and typhoons in the Philippines.

## 2.2. - Components:

This operation will have the following components:

- emergency sanitation in evacuation camps,
- access to clean water (distribution of bottled water, bladders, jerrycans, etc),
- non food items including blankets, mats, tarpaulins, clothes, hygiene items including women items, cooking utensils, etc.,
- health care, medical supplies,
- logistics (access, road-clearing operations, etc),
- coordination,
- improved communications,
- any other assistance deemed necessary.

## 3 - Duration expected for Actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration of humanitarian aid Actions shall be 3 months

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 27 September 2009.

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.

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

List of previous DG ECHO operations in the Philippines

Decision Number	Decision Type	2007 EUR	2008 EUR	2009 EUR
ECHO/PHL/BUD/2007/01000	Non Emergency	710,000		
ECHO/DIP/BUD/2008/02000(*)	Non Emergency		0	
ECHO/PHL/BUD/2008/01000	Emergency		4,000,000	
ECHO/PHL/BUD/2008/02000	Emergency		2,500,000	
ECHO/PHL/BUD/2009/01000	Non Emergency			3,000,000
	Subtotal	710,000	6,500,000	3,000,000
	Grand Total	10,210,000		

Dated : 28 September 2009

Source : HOPE

(\*) decisions with more than one country

## 5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in the Philippines the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria		DG ECHO	9,500,000		
Belgium		Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic					
Denmark					
Estonia					
Finland					
France					
Germany	1,219,351				
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland	49,995				
Italy	500,000				
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg					
Malta					
Netherlands					
Poland					
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain	500,000				
Sweden					
United kingdom					
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,269,346</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>9,500,000</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Grand total</b>	<b>11,769,346</b>		

Dated : 29 September 2009

(\*) 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.

## 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

<b>Principal objective:</b> <i>To provide primary emergency assistance to people affected by tropical storms and typhoons in the Philippines</i>			
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<b>Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)</b>	<b>Geographical area of operation</b>	<b>Potential partners<sup>3</sup></b>
<p>Specific objective 1:</p> <p>To provide life saving integrated assistance to people affected by tropical storms and typhoons in the Philippines</p>	2,000,000	the Philippines	<p><u>Direct centralised management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CROIX-ROUGE - DEU</li> <li>- CROIX-ROUGE - ESP</li> <li>- MSF - CHE</li> <li>- STCH</li> <li>- TSF, FRANCE</li> <li>- WORLD VISION - UK</li> </ul> <p><u>Joint management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IFRC-FICR</li> <li>- IOM</li> <li>- OCHA</li> <li>- UNICEF</li> <li>- WFP-PAM</li> <li>- WHO</li> </ul>
<b>TOTAL: 2,000,000</b>			

<sup>3</sup> CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA, (E), DEUTSCHES ROTES KREUZ, (DEU), FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, Fundación Save The Children, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT), MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES - SUISSE (CH), TELECOMS SANS FRONTIERES, UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, UNICEF, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION - ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE, WORLD VISION - UK

## **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/policies/evaluation/introduction\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/policies/evaluation/introduction_en.htm).