



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels,
C(2010)

COMMISSION DECISION

of[]

**amending Commission Decision C/2009/5261 of 25 June 2009
on the financing of humanitarian actions in Zambia from the 10th European
Development Fund**

(ECHO/ZMB/EDF/2009/01000)

COMMISSION DECISION

of[]

amending Commission Decision C/2009/5261 of 25 June 2009 on the financing of humanitarian actions in Zambia from the 10th European Development Fund

(ECHO/ZMB/EDF/2009/01000)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, in particular Article 72 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2007 of 14 May 2007 on the implementation of the 10th European Development Fund under the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, in particular Article 8 thereof¹,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Decision C/2009/5261 adopted on 25 June 2009 provides for the funding of humanitarian aid actions from the 10th European Development Fund in Zambia for a total amount of EUR 1,500,000, starting from 1 June 2009, with a duration of 18 months ;
- (2) The sixth Tripartite Commission meeting which was held on 4-5 February 2010 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, agreed to resume the voluntary repatriation programme in March 2010 and extend it to 31 December 2010 ;
- (3) A target has been set of more than 7,600 additional refugees to be repatriated in 2010;
- (4) The implementing partners of the voluntary repatriation, have requested funding to carry out the additional repatriation activities, which cannot be met from the funds available under Decision C/2009/5261;
- (5) It is therefore appropriate to increase the amount of Decision C/2009/5261 by EUR 1,200,000 from Zambia's allocation for unforeseen needs (B-envelope) of the 10th European Development Fund, so as to meet the objectives of the Decision in the best possible way, that is to facilitate the return of Congolese refugees repatriating from Zambia to the Democratic Republic of Congo ;
- (6) This brings the total amount of Decision C/2009/5261 to EUR 2,700,000 from the 10th European Development Fund's allocation for Zambia;

¹ OJ L 152 of 13 June 2007

- (7) The Commission will inform the EDF Committee within one month of the adoption of the Decision, in conformity with Article 8.3 of the Council Regulation N° 617/2007 of 14 May 2007 on the implementation of the 10th European Development Fund under the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Article 1 of Decision C/2009/5261 is replaced by the following:

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 2,700,000 from the 10th European Development Fund to assist refugee populations in Zambia who are repatriating to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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

- To provide the appropriate services and goods that will allow for the efficient and dignified return of up to 27,000 refugees from Zambia to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission
Member of the Commission*

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| Decision amending humanitarian Aid Decision C/2009/5261 F10 (FED10) |
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Title of the Action: Commission Decision amending Commission Decision C/2009/5261 of 25 June 2009 on the financing of humanitarian actions in Zambia from the 10th European Development Fund

Location of the action: Zambia

Amount of Decision: EUR 2,700,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/ZMB/EDF/2009/01000

Supporting Document

1. – Rationale for the amendment

An amount of EUR 1,500,000 was initially committed from the 10th EDF B envelope allocation for Zambia to support the repatriation of Congolese refugees from Zambia to the Democratic Republic of Congo in the framework of the decision taken by the Tripartite Commission (Governments of Zambia and the DRC, and UNHCR) in April 2009.

Of the funding made available through this decision, 84% was committed in two grant agreements, to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), valid in the period from 01.06.2009 – 31.12.2009, with the objective of transporting 15.000 Congolese refugees - of the 18,549 persons that the Tripartite Commission had planned to move in 2009 - by road and boat from Zambia back to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

By the time the repatriation season ended, a total of 16,971 refugees had been repatriated and reintegrated, demonstrating an extremely high success rate. In the light of this, the sixth Tripartite Commission meeting which was held on 4-5 February 2010 in Kinshasa, DRC, agreed to resume the voluntary repatriation programme on 16 March 2010 and extend it to 31 December 2010. A target has been set of 7,623 additional refugees to be repatriated in 2010. Additional refugees who express the desire to return will also be accommodated. With that, it is expected that the residual caseload of refugees, at least of the Kala and Mwange camps, will be resolved. The two implementing partners of the voluntary repatriation, IOM and UNHCR, have announced their intention to request funding from DG ECHO to carry out the additional repatriation activities.

2. - Proposed amendment.

It is proposed to increase the amount of Decision C/2009/5261 by EUR 1,200,000 to reinforce the objective of the decision in order to be able to fund additional actions. As the target figure for repatriation has been increased by the Tripartite Commission, the figure in the specific objective of the decision should be increased accordingly, from "up to 18,500" to "up to 27,000". All other aspects of the Decision remain unchanged.