



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, xx.xx.xxxx
C(2010) XXX final

COMMISSION DECISION

of [...]

on the financing of emergency humanitarian actions in Central Asia from the general budget of the European Union

(ECHO/-CA/BUD/2010/01000)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid¹, and in particular Article 2(a) and Article 13 thereof;

Whereas:

- (1) Serious violence broke out in Southern Kyrgyzstan on the evening of 10 June 2010 following rising tension between the Kyrgyz and Uzbek communities after the overthrow of the previous government in early April 2010;
- (2) As of 14 June, at least 118 people have been killed and ten of thousands of Uzbeks have been forced to leave the country and enter Uzbekistan. Preliminary information indicates that, in addition to the internally displaced population, at least 75,000 people have crossed the border with Uzbekistan, and many others are waiting at this border.
- (3) Preliminary assessments show that the victims of the violence are in dire need of emergency medical support, and refugees both in Uzbekistan and in Kyrgyzstan particularly need food, water, shelter, non-food items and protection.
- (4) To reach populations in need, humanitarian aid should be channelled through non-governmental organisations and international organisations including United Nations agencies. Therefore the European Commission should implement the budget by direct centralised management or by joint management;
- (5) Humanitarian aid actions financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 6 months;
- (6) For the purposes of this Decision the Central Asia countries involved are Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan;
- (7) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 5,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance for approximately 100,000 refugees and displaced persons, taking into account the

¹ OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1.

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;

- (8) 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 Union⁴;

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 5,000,000 for the financing of emergency humanitarian actions in Central Asia from budget article 23 02 01 of the 2010 general budget of the European Union.
2. In accordance with Article 2(a) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the principal objective of this Decision is to save and preserve the lives of vulnerable people in Central Asia affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan. The humanitarian actions shall be implemented in pursuance of the following specific objective:
 - To provide life saving integrated assistance to people affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan.

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 10 June 2010. 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 six 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.

² OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

³ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, , p.1.

⁴ Commission Decision of 5.3.2008, C/2008/773

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.
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, and 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 Financial Administrative Framework Agreement with the UN (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
Peter Zangl, Director General



Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision 23 02 01

Title: Commission Decision on the financing of emergency humanitarian actions in Central Asia from the general budget of the European Union.

Description: Emergency assistance to vulnerable people in Central Asia affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan

Location of action: CENTRAL ASIA

Amount of Decision: EUR 5,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/-CA/BUD/2010/01000

Supporting document

1 Humanitarian context, needs and risks

1.1 Situation and context

On 10 June 2010, violent clashes broke out between ethnic Kyrgyz and ethnic Uzbek youths in Osh, the largest city of Southern Kyrgyzstan, leaving a dozen dead. The Provisional Government (PG) declared the same evening a State of Emergency and a curfew in Osh city and the outlying districts. However, as of 14 June, sporadic shooting and roving mobs in Osh city continue, as well as in the second major southern city of Jalalabad and the surrounding rural areas.

As of 14 June, 118 people are reported dead and a total number of 1,609 people have applied for medical aid since 10 June with 802 hospitalised, and 789 receiving ambulatory medical care¹.

The PG has opened a border crossing to allow civilians to pass into Uzbekistan and 75,000 ethnic Uzbeks have already been registered by the Uzbek authorities, and many other homeless people are waiting at this border.

¹ Source: Kyrgyz Ministry of Health

In this country, five tent camps have been erected while other refugees are occupying schools and other public buildings. Many other citizens have been made homeless or displaced by the fighting and thousands are reportedly stuck at the border².

1.2 Identified humanitarian needs

The PG has set up a coordination centre to coordinate delivery of humanitarian assistance chaired by the PG Representative on Social Affairs³. Moreover it has sent a request for international support for the benefit of 700,000 Osh inhabitants on 14 June. The request includes a list of essential items such as water, food, medicines and fuel. In addition the authorities are requesting blankets and 35,000 tents. In depth needs assessments by the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO) partners are still extremely difficult in Southern Kyrgyzstan given the lack of security. However some of them, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) are able to respond to some of the needs, notably in the health sector. The Russian Federation's aid is providing support for the evacuation of the most injured to Bishkek's general hospital.

In Uzbekistan, needs assessments have just started and refugees will first need food, water, proper shelter and non-food items. According to the first assessments, 75,000 people have crossed the border, among them many children.

Emergency humanitarian needs include sectors such as emergency health care, emergency shelter, food and non-food items, and water and sanitation.

Protection and psychosocial assistance are also two sectors identified as a priority with many vulnerable people feeling traumatised by the violence.

1.3 Risk assessment and possible constraints

Continuing violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan is the major challenge faced by DG ECHO's partners at the moment. The return to normalcy is a pre-requisite for reaching those who have been displaced inside this part of the coordination.

In Uzbekistan, first indications show the willingness of the authorities to allow humanitarian actors to respond to the needs of the refugees' preliminary needs assessments have already started, thanks to the authorities' goodwill.

2 Proposed DG ECHO response

2.1 Rationale

This Decision will allow DG ECHO to respond to the basic and life-saving needs of those who have been injured or/and displaced during the violence which erupted on 10 June.

² Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – UNOCHA.

³ Source: UNOCHA.

2.2 Objectives

- Principal objective: To save and preserve lives of vulnerable people in Central Asia affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan
- Specific objective:
 - To provide life saving integrated assistance to people affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan.

2.3 Components

This operation will have the following components:

- food assistance,
- emergency sanitation,
- access to clean water (distribution of bottled water, water trucking, provision of jerry cans, water containers, etc),
- shelter and non food items including material for shelter repair and tools, tarpaulins, blankets, mats, clothes, slippers, hygiene items including women's items, cooking utensils, etc,
- primary health care, medical supplies, support to surveillance and outbreak prevention, possible assistance to referral,
- protection,
- psychosocial assistance,
- emergency livelihoods assistance,
- logistics and transport,
- coordination, including support for telecommunications and mapping,
- any other assistance deemed necessary.

2.4 Complementarity and coordination with other EU services, donors and institutions

See Table 3 in Annex.

2.5 Duration

The duration of humanitarian aid Actions shall be 6 months.
Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 10 June 2010.

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.

3 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 Union 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.

4 Management Issues

Humanitarian aid actions funded by the European Union are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross National Societies on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA), by Specialised Agencies of the Member States and by United Nations agencies based on the Financial Administrative Framework Agreement with the UN (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/about/actors/partners_en.htm

For NGOs, Specialised Agencies of the Member States, Red Cross National Societies and international organisations not complying with the requirements set up in the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union for joint management, actions will be managed by direct centralised management.

For international organisations identified as potential partners for implementing the Decision, actions will be managed under joint management.

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.

5 Annexes

Annex 1 - Summary decision matrix (table)

Principal objective to save and preserve lives of vulnerable people in Central Asia affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan.				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Activities	Potential partners⁴
To provide life saving integrated assistance to people affected by the violence in Southern Kyrgyzstan.	5,000,000	Central Asia		<u>Direct centralised management</u> - ACTED - MSF - CHE - MSF - NLD <u>Joint management</u> - ICRC-CICR - UNHCR - UNICEF - WFP-PAM
TOTAL	5,000,000			

⁴ AGENCE D'AIDE A LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE ET AU DEVELOPPEMENT, (FR),ARTSEN ZONDER GRENZEN (NLD),COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE (CICR),MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES - SUISSE (CH),UNICEF,UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEEES - BELGIUM,WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

Annex 2 - List of previous DG ECHO decisions

List of previous DG ECHO operations in KYRGYSTAN AND UZBEKISTAN				
Decision Number	Decision Type	2008 EUR	2009 EUR	2010 EUR
ECHO/DIP/BUD/2008/01000 (*)	Ad hoc	768,000		
ECHO/DIP/BUD/2010/02000 (*)	Ad hoc			2,195,000
	Subtotal	768,000	0	2,195,000
	TOTAL	2,963,000		

Date : 14/06/2010
Source : HOPE

(*) decisions with more than one country

Annex 3 - Overview table of the humanitarian donor contributions

Donors in KYRGYSTAN AND UZBEKISTAN over the last 12 months			
1. EU Member States (*)		2. European Commission	
	EUR		EUR
Italy	45,508	DG ECHO	2,195,000
Luxembourg	100,000		
Subtotal	145,508	Subtotal	2,195,000
TOTAL	2,340,508		

Date : 14/06/2010

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reports. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hac>

Empty cells : no information or no contribution.