



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels  
C(2010) XXX final

**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of**

**on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in Chile from the general budget of the European Union**

(ECHO/CHL/BUD/2010/01000)

## COMMISSION DECISION

of

### **on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in Chile from the general budget of the European Union**

(ECHO/CHL/BUD/2010/01000)

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

Whereas:

- (1) Chile was affected by a powerful earthquake measuring 8.8 on the Richter scale on 27 February 2010;
- (2) The epicentre was at a depth of 35 km about 1150 km north-east of the city of Concepcion and 325 km south-west of the capital, Santiago;
- (3) A tsunami alert was immediately issued for the entire Pacific basin;
- (4) At present, only preliminary information is available about the damage caused by the earthquake but electricity and telecommunications have been clearly affected and major damage to infrastructure is reported;
- (5) The magnitude of the earthquake and its proximity to populated areas has created an urgent need for medical assistance, food and water supplies, non-food items and emergency shelter as well as telecommunications and logistics assistance;
- (6) 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;
- (7) Humanitarian aid Actions financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of three months;
- (8) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 3,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable population affected by the earthquake, 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;
- (9) 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

---

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

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 Union<sup>4</sup>.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 3,000,000 for the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in Chile from budget article 23 02 01 of the 2010 general budget of the European Union.
2. In accordance with Articles 2(a) and 4 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the principal objective of this Decision is to save and preserve lives in the emergency caused by the earthquake of 27 February 2010, and its aftershocks, in Chile.

The humanitarian Actions shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:

- To provide multi-sector emergency assistance to victims of the earthquake and its aftershocks.

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 February 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 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.

---

<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.

*Article 5*

This Decision is addressed to the delegated authorising officer.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Commission*  
*Peter Zangl, Director-General*



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

**Title:** Commission Decision on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian Actions in Chile from the general budget of the European Union.

**Description:** Primary emergency humanitarian aid for people affected by the earthquake in Chile.

**Location of Action:** Chile

**Amount of Decision:** EUR 3,000,000.-

**Decision reference number:** ECHO/CHL/BUD/2010/01000

## **Supporting Document**

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

#### 1.1. - Rationale:

On 27 February 2010 at 0634 GMT a massive earthquake with a magnitude of 8.8 hit central Chile. The quake struck about 115km (70 miles) north-east of the city of Concepcion and 325km south-west of the capital, Santiago. The earthquake is the biggest to hit Chile in 50 years and one of the five largest earthquakes on record. The earthquake hit near the town of Maule, approximately 350 kilometres south-west of Santiago, at a depth of 47.4 kilometres. The epicentre was just 90 kilometres from Concepción, Chile's second-largest city, where more than 200,000 people live along the Bio Bio River. This is a rural area with mud brick houses, increasing vulnerability from the effects of the earthquake. Many aftershocks have been registered, the largest one 6.9 (210 km southwest of Concepcion and 39 km depth).

A tsunami alert was issued immediately for the entire Pacific basin. The USGS said tsunami effects had been observed at Valparaiso, west of Santiago, with a wave height of 1.69m above normal sea level. A "wave of large proportion" had affected the Juan Fernandez island group, reaching halfway into one inhabited area. Tsunami warnings have been issued for Hawaii, Australia, New Zealand and Pacific island nations. Alerts were also earlier issued for Antarctica and Central America.

In Santiago, the country's capital, buildings have collapsed and phone lines and electricity were brought down, but the full extent of the damage is still being determined. Several big aftershocks occurred afterwards in the south-central region, some measuring 6.9, 6.2 and 5.6.

According to the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS), the potentially affected critical Infrastructures are: a hydro dam in Chimburango located 189 kilometers from the province of Maule, several airports, including the main international airport and nine ports, including the port of Concepción. The capital's international airport was forced to close, a highway bridge collapsed and chunks of buildings fell into the street. The GDACS issued "Red Tsunami and Earthquake alert" in Chile.

President Michelle Bachelet declared a "state of catastrophe" in the affected areas on 27 February and appealed for calm, urging coastal residents to move to higher ground. She is visiting the most affected region, Bio Bio. Other ministers are also visiting affected areas.

#### 1.2. - Identified needs:

The earthquake has created an urgent need for medical assistance, food and water supplies, non-food items and emergency shelter as well as telecommunications and logistics assistance.

#### 1.3 – Target populations and regions concerned:

The main affected regions are Bio Bio, Maule and Araucania, but other regions throughout the country are presenting various levels of affectation. Affected populations include those directly affected by the earthquake and also by aftershocks and tsunamis.

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

The damage caused by the earthquake to infrastructure (roads, bridges, telecommunications etc) may negatively impact access to beneficiaries and affected areas. Further aftershocks and tsunamis may impact response.

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

### 2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective:

To save and preserve lives in the emergency caused by the earthquake of 27 February 2010 and its aftershocks in Chile.

Specific objective:

To provide multi-sector emergency assistance to victims of the earthquake and its aftershocks.

### 2.2. - Components:

- emergency food assistance
- water and sanitation

- access to primary health care and disease control
- distribution of non-food items
- emergency telecommunications
- emergency rehabilitation of shelter
- logistics

### 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 February 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.

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

List of previous DG ECHO operations including CHILE				
Decision Number	Decision Type	2007 EUR	2008 EUR	2009 EUR
ECHO/DIP/BUD/2009/01000(*)	Non Emergency			10,000,000 for South America
	Subtotal			10,000,000 for South America
	Grand Total	10,000,000 for South America		

Dated : 27 February 2010  
Source : HOPE

(\*) decision covering South America – Chile is included in one multi-country project

## 5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in CHILE the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria		DG ECHO	0		
Belgium		Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic					
Denmark					
Estonia					
Finland					
France					
Germany					
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland					
Italy					
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg					
Malta					
Netherlands					
Poland					
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain					
Sweden					
United kingdom					
Subtotal	0	Subtotal	0	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	0		

Dated : 27 February 2010

(\*) 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 3,000,000.



## 6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

<b>Principal objective:</b> To save and preserve lives in the emergency caused by the earthquake of 27 February 2010 and its aftershocks in Chile.			
<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)</b>	<b>Geographical area of operation</b>	<b>Potential partners<sup>1</sup></b>
Specific objective 1:  To provide multi-sector emergency assistance to victims of the earthquake and its aftershocks.	3,000,000	Location:  Affected areas in Chile	<u>Direct centralised management</u> - CARE - NL - CROIX-ROUGE - ESP - MSF - ESP - OXFAM - UK - PLAN INTERNATIONAL UK - STCH - TSF, FRANCE - WORLD VISION DEU <u>Joint management</u> - FAO - IFRC-FICR - IOM - OCHA - PAHO - UNESCO - UNICEF - WFP-PAM
<b>TOTAL: 3,000,000</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Stichting CARE NL, CRUZ ROJA ESPAÑOLA, (E), FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, Fundación Save The Children, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (INT), MEDICOS SIN FRONTERAS, (E), OXFAM (GB), PLAN INTERNATIONAL (UK), TELECOMS SANS FRONTIERES, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION, UNITED NATIONS - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION, UNITED NATIONS, OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, WORLD VISION, (DEU)

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