Title: Primary Emergency aid to the victims of the earthquake of 8 October 2005 in South Asia

Location of operation: SOUTH ASIA

Amount of Decision: EUR 3,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/-SA/BUD/2005/05000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale:

On Saturday 8 October 2005, 10.46 h GMT, an earthquake located 95 km north east of Islamabad in Pakistan, measured at 7.6 Magnitude at the Richter scale and qualified as one of the biggest in the recent years in this region, hit Pakistan, North India and Afghanistan.

Subsequent aftershocks have rocked Pakistan and India and landslides have occurred in both countries as a direct consequence of the earthquake.

Communication lines have been disturbed and information on casualties is scarce and fragmented.

In Pakistan where the earthquake epicentre was located, infrastructures are reported severely damaged and access to the affected areas is very difficult as roads are blocked. It is particularly true for the rural areas where the needs assessments are very difficult for the time-being.

So far, Pakistan has announced more than 19 000 dead people and more than 40 000 people injured.

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1 Source: according to Pakistani sources quoted by BBC World Service, 10/10/05 – 3.39 GMT
In Indian-administered Kashmir, reports received so far indicate that 550 people are confirmed dead and 600 injured. The town of Kupwara close to the Line of Control (LoC) that separates divided Kashmir was worst hit, with 250 dead. The town of Uri was also badly hit with 140 dead people. The Indian ministry is working to restore essential supplies like electricity and water disrupted by the earthquake.

In Afghanistan, there are some reports from Nangahar, one of the South East provinces that a few people, between 1 and 5, have been either killed or injured but no major damage is reported for the time-being.

1.2. - Identified needs:

Detailed information is lacking due to communications deficiencies and difficult access to the disaster zones. In-depth assessments are expected to become available in the course of the coming days and week.

The damage reports, including figures on wounded and dead, provide an increasingly dramatic picture as time passes and more affected zones can be reached.

The Pakistani Government announced on the same day as the earthquake that it would welcome international assistance and highlighted needs for support in immediate relief assistance, search and rescue and needs assessment, while the Indian central authorities indicated primarily that they should be able to respond themselves to the disaster.

Given the internal conflict, Indian administered Kashmir is barely open to international assistance and in practice only four international organisations are operational. It is reported that some districts along the LoC (Line of Control) with Pakistan have been heavily affected by the earthquake, but detailed information is lacking for the time being.

Well-known ECHO partners – which have operated with ECHO funding in the context of other ongoing humanitarian programmes in the region - have requested assistance from the European Commission to provide emergency relief in the disaster-hit areas both in Pakistan and India. These partners such as Oxfam, Action Aid, Save the Children UK and the IFRC/ICRC have been present in the region for a long time implementing various types of relief projects covering several sectors at both sides of the border. Due to their long presence in the region they have all the requested permits from the local authorities which allow them to intervene immediately. Their past experience and ECHO’s appreciation for their performance provides more guarantee for a quick and quality intervention in the field.

Lack of communication having been identified as a crucial problem, ECHO is also proposing to support Télécoms sans Frontières for providing satellite communications tools to all the relevant stakeholders intervening in the very first phase of the relief operations together with affected populations.

Need assessment and coordination capacity: ECHO has mobilised its field experts in the region (Afghanistan, India and Pakistan) and beyond to contribute to the consolidation of needs assessments and the coordination of international aid.
1.3. Target population and regions concerned:
Inhabitants of the affected areas in Pakistan and North India. Reliable information is lacking but it is reported that more than 19000 people have been killed and 42000 injured while in India, figures are not completely accurate but gives more than 500 people killed. Numbers of missing persons are not available yet. The death toll as well as the number of casualties are likely to rise as search and rescue operations will progress in their work.

1.4. Risk assessment and possible constraints:
While Pakistan called for international assistance, the Indian authorities have not yet done so and may not do so. Access to Indian Administrative Kashmir is difficult for most of the international organisations and it is expected that only the organisations already present in the area will have the possibility to work.

Communication and access lines being broken, logistic problems due to the remoteness and the geography of the affected areas and scarce products available locally could require additional resources for implementation.

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. Objectives:
Principal objective: Primary Emergency aid to the victims of the earthquake of 8 October 2005 in Pakistan and India.

Specific objective:
- Provision of life-saving support to victims of the earthquake.

2.2. Components:
- Health Care
- Shelter
- Water and Sanitation
- Non-Food items
- Food aid and nutrition
- Specific actions such as logistics, telecommunications in emergency, coordination and needs assessments.
3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration of humanitarian aid operations shall be 3 months. 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 operations.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision Number</th>
<th>Decision Type</th>
<th>2003 EUR</th>
<th>2004 EUR</th>
<th>2005 EUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECHO/IND/210/2003/01000</td>
<td>Non Emergency</td>
<td>1,950,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECHO/IND/BUD/2004/01000</td>
<td>Non Emergency</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECHO/PAK/210/2003/01000</td>
<td>Non Emergency</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: 2,950,000
Grand Total: 4,950,000

Dated: 10/10/2005
Source: HOPE

5 - Other donors and donor co-ordination mechanisms.

According to ReliefWeb and the European Civil Protection Co-operation mechanisms (MIC), the pledges and contributions for support are as of Sunday 9/10/2005 - 19.28 Brussels time:

EU Member Sates
Austria: has stood down its offer for assistance since no more SAR teams are needed on site
Denmark: 5 million Danish kronors to IFRC and UN each. 1 expert (UNDAC-support)
Estonia: Medium USAR + Logistics (17 members) is on standby / Transportation needed
Finland: 1 SAR team of 30 personnel offered + 2 experts for UNDAC
France: A 20-people SAR team with dogs and a 5-person assessment team
Germany: SAR team is being deployed. MIC is informed about an assessment expert sent with the French team + 50,000 €
Greece: 1 SAR team of 25 persons + special SAR vehicle offered
Hungary: SAR team
Ireland: 1.2 M$
Italie: assessment team; tents, blankets and field hospital with medial team and paramedical team
Poland: SAR team, 4 medical doctors with field ambulatory
Spain: SAR team
Netherlands: USAR-NL monitoring and on standby
United Kingdom: SAR teams comprising some 70 people plus dogs and associated equipment + 176000 $
Non EU Member states

Australia: 380,000 Aus.$ to IFRC
China: 6.2 M$
Iceland: ICE-SAR monitoring and on standby
Japan: Search and Rescue team – 50 persons
Turkey: Rescue team
USA: 100,000 $ + helicopters
Switzerland: 200,000 Swiss Francs + staff for UN assessment mission

International organisations and Non Governmental organisations

IFRC: 30,000 Swiss Francs for needs assessments
OCHA: 100,000 $
Japanese Red Cross: 133,000 $
ACT - Action by Churches Together International: 50,000 $ for CWS
CRS - Catholic Relief Services: 50,000 $
Asian Development Bank: 10 M$

6 - Amount of decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the decision: EUR 3,000,000
### 5.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objective

**Principal objective:** *Primary Emergency aid to the victims of the earthquake of 8 October 2005 in Pakistan and India.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific objectives</th>
<th>Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)</th>
<th>Geographical area of operation</th>
<th>Potential partners³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specific objective 1: Provision of life-saving support to victims of the earthquake.</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>Pakistan and India</td>
<td>- ACTIONAID - CROIX-ROUGE - FICR-IFCR-CH - OXFAM - UK - SAVE THE CHILDREN - UK - TSF, FRANCE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 3,000,000

³ ACTIONAID (GBR), FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, OXFAM (GB), TELECOMS SANS FRONTIERES, THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND (GBR).
### 7 - Budget Impact article  23 02 01

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Available Appropriations for 2005</td>
<td>476,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplementary Budgets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinforcement from the Emergency aid reserve</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>-3,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Available Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>573,000,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total executed to date (by 9/10/2005)</td>
<td>490,337,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available remaining</td>
<td>82,662,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total amount of the Decision</strong></td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMISSION DECISION
of
on the financing of primary emergency humanitarian operations from the general budget of the European Union in SOUTH ASIA

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, and in particular Article 13 thereof,

Whereas:
1. Pakistan and India have been affected by a violent earthquake on 8 October 2005, estimated at a magnitude of 7.6 on Richter scale,
2. The epicentre being localised 95 km north east of Islamabad, the earthquake has provoked huge material damage and claimed many victims (dead and injured, homeless), particularly in Pakistan and in North India.
3. Victims are in urgent need of medical assistance, water and food supplies and emergency shelter,
4. The duration of humanitarian aid operations financed by this decision will be of a maximum of 3 months,
5. It is estimated that an amount of Euro 3,000,000 of the general budget of the European Union is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of the earthquake of 8 October 2005, in Pakistan and India, taking into account the available budget, other donors’ interventions and other factors.

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 3,000,000 for primary emergency humanitarian aid operations to provide the necessary assistance and relief to the victims of the earthquake of 8 October 2005, in Pakistan and India, in SOUTH ASIA from budget line 23 02 01 of the 2005 general budget of the European Union.

2. In accordance with Article 2 (a) of Council Regulation No. 1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objective:
- Provision of life-saving support to victims of the earthquake.

The total amount of this decision is allocated to this objective.

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 million.

Article 3

1. The implementation of humanitarian aid operations funded by this decision shall have a maximum duration of 3 months from their start date.

2. Expenditure under this decision is eligible from 8 October 2005.

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 humanitarian aid operations.

Article 4

1. This decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission