



Supporting Document

**Decision amending Humanitarian Aid Decision C(2015) 8453
ECHO/-SF/EDF/2015/01000**

- Title: Commission Decision amending Commission Decision C(2015) 8453 of 02.12.2015 on financing humanitarian actions in Southern Africa and Indian Ocean from the 11th European Development Fund (EDF)
- Description: Humanitarian Food Assistance for populations affected by food insecurity in Southern Africa linked to El Nino phenomenon
- Location of action: Southern Africa (Angola, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zimbabwe)
- Amount of Decision: EUR 52 000 000
- Decision reference number: ECHO/-SF/EDF/2015/01000

1. Explanatory memorandum

Rationale for the amendment

The Commission Decision aims at providing an emergency response to the negative humanitarian impact of the El Niño phenomenon in Southern Africa. It is necessary to continue and scaling up this response for the following reasons:

- The current rainfall season has been the driest in the last 35 years across several parts of the Southern Africa Region. Two consecutive below-average rainy seasons have significantly impacted crop and livestock production, cereal prices, water availability, and livelihoods. With more than 75 % of the population living in rural areas and their survival intrinsically tied to rain-fed agriculture, the loss of agriculture crops represents a serious threat to the income of households.
- The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Council of Ministers at its meeting held on 15th March 2016 in Gaborone, approved a declaration of a Regional Drought Disaster and issuing a Statement of Appeal for Assistance for 28 million food insecure people in the SADC countries. Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET March 2016) estimates that nearly 4 million people currently face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse across the region.
- While April/May harvests will provide some temporary and short lived relief, food insecurity during the 2016/17 consumption year is expected to be severe and this trend continue till next harvest in May 2017. Needs are likely to peak and probably double between November 2016 and April 2017.

Country specific situations

ANGOLA: About 1.4 million people are food insecure in southern parts of the country mainly in Cunene, Huila and Namibe. Cunene is the most affected with nearly 72% of its population being food insecure (700 000 people). According to FAO, crop losses are expected to be up to 60% in Huila and up to 75% in other parts of the southern provinces, against the backdrop of bad season in 2014/15. OCHA reports that nearly 100 000 children are severely malnourished out of an estimated population of 756 000 children in the southern provinces. In Cunene Province, severe acute malnutrition is at 7%.

LESOTHO: On 21st December 2015, the Government has declared the State of Drought Emergency due to depletion of water resources. About 535 000 are in need of food assistance. Loss of livestock and decline in HH income are of serious concern.

MADAGASCAR: On 22nd March 2016 the Government declared state of emergency in Southern Madagascar. Nearly 1.9 million people are food insecure of which 1 114 000 in the South. Nearly 665 000 are severe food insecure. In Androy, Anosy regions that suffered three years of consecutive drought, 90% and 76% of households are food insecure respectively and under-nutrition remains a concern.

MALAWI: On 12th April 2016 the President of Malawi declared a State of National Disaster, with 2.8 million people food insecure people in 25 districts of the country. The Malawi Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) will start the 2016-17 consumption season with a zero carry-over stock. Prices of maize are up to two times higher than last year. Southern region being the most affected.

MOZAMBIQUE: On 12th April 2016 the Government of Mozambique decreed the institutional Red Alert due to seriousness drought in South and Central regions of the country. The March 2016 food security and nutritional assessment reflect a dire food security situation (1 500 000 food insecure people of which 600 000 estimated in severe food insecurity). Global Acute Malnutrition rates for U5 children are 15% in some provinces. Livestock sector is also severely affected with recorded thousands cattle losses in Southern provinces.

SWAZILAND: On 18th February 2016 the President declared a national drought disaster. Estimated number of food insecure people is about 350 000. Food prices have increased by 66% on yearly basis. Livestock sector is most affected with widespread deaths. It is estimated that 38 000 cattle were lost to drought during the past 6 months.

ZIMBABWE: On 5th February 2016 President declared a state of disaster. 2.4 million people face “*insufficient means to meet their minimum food needs*”. Projections for the 2016-17 lean season indicate 4.4 million people will require assistance. Under-nutrition indicators and depleted livestock (more than 16 000 cattle lost) in southern part of the country are worrisome.

2. Proposed Amendment

It is proposed to increase the amount of the Decision by EUR 40 000 000 from the 11th European Development Fund, bringing the total amount of the Decision to EUR 52 000 000.

Annex 1: Summary decision matrix (table)

Principal objective: To mitigate effects of food insecurity in the most vulnerable populations in Southern Africa				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Activities	Potential partners
To provide humanitarian food assistance to vulnerable people in Southern Africa	52 000 000.00	Angola, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multipurpose cash transfer to meet basic needs of affected populations during the 2016-17 lean season. • Support the 2016-17 agriculture season with timely delivery of agriculture inputs. • Protection of household assets, particularly livestock. • Treatment of under-nutrition and contribution to its prevention. • Protect development gains through crisis modifier mechanisms of resilience financial instruments. 	All ECHO partners
TOTAL	52 000 000.00			