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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 9.10.2018**

**amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2017) 8863 on the financing of  
humanitarian aid operational priorities from the 2018 general budget of the European  
Union  
ECHO/WWD/BUD/2018/01000**

# COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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## amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2017) 8863 on the financing of humanitarian aid operational priorities from the 2018 general budget of the European Union ECHO/WWD/BUD/2018/01000

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 Article 2, Article 4 and Article 15(2) and (3) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 2013/755/EU of 25 November 2013 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Union ('Overseas Association Decision')<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 79 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012<sup>3</sup>, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Decision C(2017) 8863<sup>4</sup> provides for the financing of humanitarian aid operational priorities from the 2018 general budget of the European Union for a total amount of EUR 842 200 000 from budget articles 23 02 01 and 23 02 02. This amount was raised to EUR 1 037 600 000 by Decision C(2018) 3574 of 07 June 2018 amending decision C(2017) 8863<sup>5</sup>
- (2) The Commission is committed to providing a humanitarian response in those areas where humanitarian needs are greatest. Accordingly, when required by changing circumstances in the field which might affect existing humanitarian needs or generate new needs, the humanitarian response may be subject to reorientation or scaling-up in the course of implementation of actions. Union financial assistance may also have to be awarded to new actions to satisfy exacerbated or increased humanitarian needs.

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

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 344, 19.12.2013, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p.1.

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Decision C(2017) 8863 final of 3.1.2018 financing humanitarian aid operational priorities from the 2018 general budget of the European Union - ECHO/WWD/BUD/2018/01000.

<sup>5</sup> Commission Implementing Decision C(2018) 3574 of 7.6.2018 amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2017) 8863 on the financing of humanitarian aid operational priorities from the 2018 general budget of the European Union - ECHO/WWD/BUD/2018/01000

- (3) The global humanitarian context has been characterised by an increase in humanitarian needs in locations such as Chad facing a new influx of Central African Republic refugees, Cameroon with increased needs related to the Lake Chad crisis in the Far North, Nigeria facing an internal conflict, Mali and Burkina Faso facing an agro-pastoralist crisis, Ethiopia facing a conflict-related internal displacement crisis, the Democratic Republic of Congo where the levels of hunger and malnutrition have dramatically increased and internal conflicts have led to increased number of Internally Displaced People (IDPs), Sudan where new displacements and the drought have triggered additional food and nutrition needs, Syria where the crisis continue to be characterised by large-scale displacement of population, Palestine where the deterioration of the humanitarian situation has a high impact on the health and water and sanitation (WASH) sectors, Afghanistan with a sudden peak in urgent needs of the one million Afghans refugees returning to Afghanistan and Venezuela facing a complex humanitarian crisis with regional impact.
- (4) Non-substantial changes under this Decision are to be calculated by reference to the maximum contribution, excluding the contributions received from other donors pursuant to Article 21(2)(a)(ii) and Article 21(2)(e) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046.
- (5) To date, the Commission's authorising officer by delegation adopted non-substantial changes consisting of increases to this Decision for an amount equivalent to EUR 175 000 000.
- (6) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046.
- (7) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Humanitarian Aid Committee established by Article 17(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Sole Article*

Decision C(2017) 8863 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 1 is amended as follows:
  - (a) Paragraphs (1) and (2) are replaced by the following:

'1. A maximum contribution from the Union budget to the financing of humanitarian aid operational priorities is set at EUR 1 212 600 000, of which EUR 1 162 600 000 shall be financed from budget article 23 02 01 and EUR 50 000 000 shall be financed from budget article 23 02 02, of the 2018 general budget of the European Union, is approved.

The amount from budget article 23 02 01 referred to above includes a contribution amounting to EUR 36 000 000, received by the Union from the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom Government, to be used in support humanitarian aid operations in the Sahel.
  2. The humanitarian actions shall be implemented in order to:
    - (a) Provide humanitarian and food assistance, relief and protection to vulnerable people affected by man-made crises, possibly aggravated by natural disasters,

including new crises and existing crises where the scale and complexity of the humanitarian crisis is such that it seems likely to continue.

A total of EUR 1 037 350 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this specific objective.

- (b) Provide humanitarian and food assistance, relief and protection to vulnerable people affected by natural disasters that have entailed major loss of life, physical and psychological or social suffering or material damage.

A total of EUR 86 250 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this specific objective.

- (c) Provide humanitarian assistance for response and disaster preparedness to populations affected by disasters where a small scale response is adequate and to populations affected by epidemic outbreaks.

A total of EUR 18 000 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this specific objective.

- (d) Support strategies and complement existing strategies that enable local communities and institutions to better prepare for, mitigate and respond adequately to natural disasters by enhancing their capacities to cope and respond, thereby increasing resilience and reducing vulnerability.

A total of EUR 50 000 000 from budget article 23 02 02 is allocated to this specific objective.

- (e) Improve the delivery of aid through complementary and thematic activities aiming at increasing the effectiveness, efficiency, quality, timeliness and visibility of humanitarian actions and transport.

A total of EUR 21 000 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this specific objective.

This specific objective shall be met through achieving the following sub-specific objectives:

- (i) Strengthen the global humanitarian preparedness and response capacity of humanitarian partners by increasing the effectiveness and reinforcing the capacity of international humanitarian organisations and non-governmental organisations to assess, analyse, prepare and respond to humanitarian crises.

A total of EUR 3 500 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this sub-specific objective.

- (ii) Improve the conditions for delivering humanitarian aid by supporting transport services to ensure that aid is accessible to beneficiaries, including by means of medical evacuation of humanitarian staff where the unavailability of such transport services could adversely affect the timely and effective provision of assistance to beneficiaries.

A total of EUR 14 800 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this sub-specific objective.

- (iii) Increase awareness, understanding of and support for humanitarian issues, especially in the Union and in third countries where the Union is funding major humanitarian operations through public awareness and information campaigns. Communication actions in 2018 will also contribute,

where appropriate, to the corporate communication of the Commission, in particular regarding the EU's role in the world (A stronger global actor) as well as to the corporate communication cluster "An EU that protects".

A total of EUR 2 000 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this sub-specific objective.

(iv) Provide high quality European education and professional qualifications on humanitarian action that impact on humanitarian aid policy and practice.

A total of EUR 700 000 from budget article 23 02 01 is allocated to this sub-specific objective.

Annex 1 to this Decision reflects the above-mentioned allocations by specific objectives.

Annex 2 to this Decision gives an indication of the contemplated allocation by countries/regions.'

- (2) Annex 1 is replaced by Annex 1 to this Decision.
- (3) Annex 2 is replaced by Annex 2 to this Decision.

Done at Brussels, 9.10.2018

*For the Commission*  
*Christos STYLIANIDES*  
*Member of the Commission*