



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 2 May 2012**

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**COVER NOTE**

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from:	Mr Janusz LEWANDOWSKI, Member of the European Commission
date of receipt:	30 April 2012
to:	Mr Bjarne CORYDON, President of the Council of the European Union
Subject:	Transfer of appropriations No DEC08/2012 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2012

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Delegations will find attached Commission document DEC08/2012.

Encl.: DEC08/2012



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

BRUSSELS, 26/04/2012

GENERAL BUDGET - 2012  
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLES 16, 40

### TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° DEC 08/2012

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#### **FROM**

**CHAPTER** - 4002 Reserves for financial interventions  
**ARTICLE** - 40 02 41 Differentiated appropriations

Commitments	- 5 500 000
Payments	- 5 500 000

#### **TO**

**CHAPTER** - 1602 Communication and the media  
**ARTICLE** - 16 02 02 Multimedia actions

Commitments	4 500 000
Payments	4 500 000

**CHAPTER** - 1603 'Going Local' communication  
**ITEM** - 16 03 02 01 Communication of the Commission Representations

Commitments	1 000 000
Payments	1 000 000

## I. INCREASE

### I.A

#### a) Heading

#### 16 02 02 - Multimedia actions

#### b) Figures at 02/04/2012

	Commitments	Payments
1A. Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB)	26 960 000	23 500 000
1B. Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0	0
2. Transfers	0	0
3. Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	26 960 000	23 500 000
4. Utilisation of final appropriation	3 000	1 797 216
<b>5. Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>26 957 000</b>	<b>21 702 784</b>
<b>6. Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>31 457 000</b>	<b>26 202 784</b>
<b>7. Increase proposed</b>	<b>4 500 000</b>	<b>4 500 000</b>
8. Increase as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	16.69%	19.15%
9. Increase, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 23(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 17a of the implementing rules	n/a	n/a

#### c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over) (C5)

	Commitments	Payments
1. Appropriation available at start of year	234 372	234 372
2. Appropriation available on the 02/04/2012	234 372	234 372
3. Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	0.00%	0.00%

#### d) Detailed grounds for the increase

The European Parliament (EP) during its reading of the Draft Budget 2012, approved an amendment putting into the reserve line 40 02 41 an amount of EUR 4 500 000 both in commitment and payment appropriations. Three conditions were set for releasing the reserve, namely:

1. Re-establishment of the Pan-European TV network and preservation of Euranet and PressEurop.
2. Disclosure of all contracts as well as internal and external evaluations related to these networks.
3. Presentation by the Commission of a comprehensive communication strategy.

This reserve was confirmed in the voted budget.

The Commission would like to present the actions undertaken towards fulfilment of the above-mentioned conditions:

1a. Pan-European TV network:

In the executability letter of 26 October 2011, the Commission informed the Budgetary Authority that it had decided not to go forward with this project as this initiative has budgetary implications that are not compatible with the need for rationalisation in the present financial context. In the same document the Commission proposed to concentrate the available funds on existing projects that are yielding tangible results.

In December 2011, the Commission sent a letter to the President and other members of the Culture and Education Committee of the EP explaining the grounds for abandoning the EU TV Network. They are related to the limited availability of resources and to the refocused Commission's communication role, as the Directorate-General (DG) Communication is progressively shifting towards a service-DG that offers direct support to journalists and citizens.

1b. Euranet and PressEurop:

The Euranet and PressEurop contracts have been renewed in 2012. Appropriations are also foreseen in the 2013 Draft Budget.

2. Contracts and evaluations:

On 20 February 2012, the Commission sent the contractual documents concerning Euranet and PressEurop along with the evaluation procedure documents, related to the Euranet and the EU-TV Network, to the European Parliament. The external evaluation of PressEurop is on-going and is expected to be finalised by July 2012.

3. Communication strategy:

The Report on communication strategy "Communicating Europe to Citizens and Media" was sent to the European Parliament on 17 February 2012. This Report was also presented by DG Communication's Director-General to the Culture and Education Committee on 29 February 2012.

The Commission considers that the conditions for releasing the reserve can therefore be considered as fulfilled and requests the transfer of appropriations in order to be able to implement the actions foreseen on the budget line 16 02 02 for 2012.

## I.B

### a) Heading

#### 16 03 02 01 - Communication of the Commission Representations

### b) Figures at 02/04/2012

	Commitments	Payments
1A. Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB)	5 870 000	5 560 000
1B. Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0	0
2. Transfers	0	0
3. Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	5 870 000	5 560 000
4. Utilisation of final appropriation	1 662 949	1 431 955
<b>5. Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>4 207 051</b>	<b>4 128 045</b>
<b>6. Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>5 207 051</b>	<b>5 128 045</b>
<b>7. Increase proposed</b>	<b>1 000 000</b>	<b>1 000 000</b>
8. Increase as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	17.04%	17.99%
9. Increase, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 23(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 17a of the implementing rules	n/a	n/a

### c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over) (C5)

	Commitments	Payments
1. Appropriation available at start of year	7 760	321
2. Appropriation available on the 02/04/2012	7 760	41
3. Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	0.00%	87.23%

### d) Detailed grounds for the increase

The European Parliament, during its reading of the Draft Budget 2012, approved an amendment putting into the reserve line 40 02 41 an amount of EUR 1 000 000 both in commitment and payment appropriations. This reserve was confirmed in the voted budget. In order to release the reserve the Commission was asked to submit the assessment report on the management and the functioning of the European Public Spaces (EPS) together with the working programme for 2012 and make a clear commitment to effectively improve inter-institutional cooperation as regards the EPS.

The Commission would like to present to the Budgetary Authority the actions undertaken towards fulfilment of the above-mentioned conditions:

The EPS work programmes for 2012 were prepared in close cooperation between the European Parliament Information Offices (EFPIOs) and the European Commission Representations and co-signed by both their Heads. These documents, together with a note on the management and the functioning of the EPS in 2011, were submitted by letter from Ms. Lahousse-Juarez (Director-General for Communication of the EP) and Mr. Paulger (Director- General of DG Communication of the Commission) to Mr. Cassini, the Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO) in the EP.

In addition, the report on the implementation of the 2011 inter-institutional communication priorities is under preparation and is expected to be presented before the Inter-institutional Group of Information on 6 June 2012. It will contain a specific section covering the communication activities carried out in the European Public Spaces in 2011, also including the activities on inter-institutional communication priorities.

The Commission considers that the conditions for releasing the reserve can therefore be considered as fulfilled and requests the transfer of appropriations in order to be able to implement the actions, foreseen on the budget line 16 03 02 01 for 2012.

## II. DECREASE

### a) Heading

#### 40 02 41 - Differentiated appropriations

### b) Figures at 02/04/2012

	Commitments	Payments
1A. Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB)	689 589 925	268 395 154
1B. Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0	0
2. Transfers	-544 253 900	-120 439 157
3. Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	145 336 025	147 955 997
4. Utilisation of final appropriation	0	0
<b>5. Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>145 336 025</b>	<b>147 955 997</b>
<b>6. Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>139 836 025</b>	<b>142 455 997</b>
<b>7. Proposed decrease</b>	<b>5 500 000</b>	<b>5 500 000</b>
8. Decrease as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	0.80%	2.05%
9. Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 23(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 17a of the implementing rules	n/a	n/a

### c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over) (C5)

	Commitments	Payments
1. Appropriation available at start of year	0	0
2. Appropriation available on the 02/04/2012	0	0
3. Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	n/a	n/a

### d) Detail grounds for the transfer

See justification on the increase line (lifting of reserve).