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**COVER NOTE**

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From:	Ms Kristalina GEORGIEVA, Vice-president of the European Commission
date of receipt:	6 July 2015
To:	Mr Pierre GRAMEGNA, President of the Council of the European Union
Subject:	Proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 24/2015 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2015

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Delegations will find attached a revised version of Commission document DEC 24/2015.

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Encl.: DEC 24/2015



BRUSSELS, 02/07/2015

GENERAL BUDGET - 2015  
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLES: 23, 40

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° DEC 24/2015

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**FROM**

**CHAPTER** - 4002 Reserves for financial interventions

ARTICLE - 40 02 42 Emergency aid reserve (carried-over appropriations)	Commitments	-50 000 000,00
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ARTICLE - 40 02 42 Emergency aid reserve	Payments	-50 000 000,00
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**TO**

**CHAPTER** - 2302 Humanitarian aid, food aid and disaster preparedness

ARTICLE - 23 02 01 Delivery of rapid, effective and needs-based humanitarian aid and food aid	Commitments	50 000 000,00
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ARTICLE - 23 02 01 Delivery of rapid, effective and needs-based humanitarian aid and food aid	Payments	50 000 000,00
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## **I. DECREASE**

### **I.1**

#### **a) Heading**

**40 02 42 - Emergency aid reserve (carried-over appropriations)**

#### **b) Figure at 25/06/2015**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1A Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB) [carried-over]	198 922 866,00
1B Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0,00
2 Transfers	-55 000 000,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	143 922 866,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	0,00
<b>5 Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>143 922 866,00</b>
<b>6 Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>93 922 866,00</b>
<b>7 Proposed decrease</b>	<b>50 000 000,00</b>
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	25,14%
9 Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 26(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Application	n/a

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

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	0,00
2 Appropriations available on 25/06/2015	0,00
3 Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	n/a

#### **d) Detailed grounds for the transfer**

According to article 9 of the Multiannual Financial Framework, the Emergency Aid Reserve (EAR) is intended to allow for a rapid response to specific aid requirements of third countries following events which could not be foreseen when the budget was established; first and foremost for humanitarian operations, but also for civil crisis management and protection, and situations of particular pressure resulting from migratory flows at the Union's external borders, where circumstances so require.

## **I.2**

### **a) Heading**

**40 02 42 - Emergency aid reserve**

### **b) Figure at 25/06/2015**

	<b>Payments</b>
1A Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB)	150 000 000,00
1B Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0,00
2 Transfers	-55 000 000,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	95 000 000,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	0,00
<b>5 Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>95 000 000,00</b>
<b>6 Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>45 000 000,00</b>
<b>7 Proposed decrease</b>	<b>50 000 000,00</b>
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	33,33 %
9 Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 26(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Application	n/a

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

	<b>Payments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	0,00
2 Appropriations available on 25/06/2015	0,00
3 Rate of utilisation $[(1-2)/1]$	n/a

### **d) Detailed grounds for the transfer**

See page 2 (justification for decrease of commitment appropriations of the same line 40 02 42).

## **II. INCREASE**

### **II.1**

#### **a) Heading**

**23 02 01 - Delivery of rapid, effective and needs-based humanitarian aid and food aid**

#### **b) Figure at 25/06/2015**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1A Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB) [carried-over]	0,00
1B Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0,00
2 Transfers	55 000 000,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	55 000 000,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	55 000 000,00
<b>5 Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>0,00</b>
<b>6 Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>50 000 000,00</b>
<b>7 Proposed increase</b>	<b>50 000 000,00</b>
8 Increase as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	n/a
9 Increase, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 26(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Application	n/a

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

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	62 508,54
2 Appropriations available on 25/06/2015	8 867,24
3 Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	85,81 %

#### **d) Detailed grounds for the transfer**

On 18 June 2015, the overall implementation rate of commitment appropriations of the humanitarian aid chapter stood at 91%, whereas for payment appropriations it was at 56%.

While the initial amount of the Operational Reserve was set at EUR 176 million, to date EUR 79 million in commitment appropriations are available. This amount will be used for interventions in crises and natural disasters occurring or worsening in the second half of the year, including the recurring monsoonal rains, typhoons and cyclones in South Asia, Central America and the Caribbean Region.

Humanitarian needs due to the crisis in Syria and neighbouring countries remain immense as the violence in the country continues relentlessly. More than 16 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, 12.2 million of whom inside Syria. 5.6 million of those in need are children. In addition, more than 7.6 million people have been internally displaced, of whom around 4.8 million reside in hard-to-reach areas, including at least 440 000 people trapped in areas besieged by either government or opposition forces. The rapid rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant has further complicated the situation, changing the dynamics and geographical frontlines of the conflict. In addition to the further rising needs inside Syria, almost four million Syrian people have sought safety in neighbouring countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt). Their governments are facing immense security, social, economic and political pressures in hosting this large number of refugees, with tensions growing towards the refugee communities.

To cater for the needs arising from the crisis and in line with the Joint Communication JOIN(2015)2 final of 6 February 2015 to the European Parliament and to the Council "Elements for an EU regional strategy for Syria and Iraq as well as the Da'esh threat", an additional amount of EUR 50 million is needed. In particular, these funds will be used to deliver

assistance inside Syria and in the neighbouring countries (in priority order: Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Egypt) in the sectors of health, water, sanitation, hygiene and protection.

In addition, an amount of EUR 14 million will be committed for the Syrian crisis from the Operational Reserve, on top of the allocation of EUR 100 million for 2015.

The Commission has also looked within Heading 4 for appropriations for redeployment. However, to date no availabilities have been found.

Therefore, the Commission requests the mobilisation of the Emergency Aid Reserve for an amount of EUR 50 million in commitment and payment appropriations.

For further details on the ongoing crisis, please refer to the attached annex.

## **II.2**

### **a) Heading**

**23 02 01 - Delivery of rapid, effective and needs-based humanitarian aid and food aid**

### **b) Figure at 25/06/2015**

	<b>Payments</b>
1A Appropriation in budget (initial budget + AB)	872 446 000,00
1B Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0,00
2 Transfers	55 000 000,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	927 446 000,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	535 988 175,30
<b>5 Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>391 457 824,70</b>
<b>6 Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>441 457 824,70</b>
<b>7 Proposed increase</b>	<b>50 000 000,00</b>
8 Increase as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	5,73 %
9 Increase, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 26(1)(b) and (c) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Application	n/a

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

	<b>Payments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	28 512,24
2 Appropriations available on 25/06/2015	0,00
3 Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	100,00 %

### **d) Detailed grounds for the transfer**

See pages 4 and 5 (justifications for increase of commitment appropriations of the same line 23 02 01).



## SYRIA and NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

<b>Key financial information</b>	
<b>Total amount committed in previous year for this crisis</b>	<b>EUR 201 million</b>
<b>Current year</b>	
Amount committed through the current year's initial Humanitarian Implementation Plan(s) related to this crisis	EUR 100 million
<b>Total amount committed this year</b>	<b>EUR 100 million</b>
Other EU budget funding: - European Neighbourhood Instrument - Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace	EUR 54 million EUR 21.6 million
Other donors ( <i>source United Nations Financial Tracking Service as of 03/06/2015</i> )	More than USD 2 billion

<b>Additional needs (as of June 2015)</b>	
Total needs	EUR 64 million
- from Emergency Aid Reserve	EUR 50 million
- from Operational Reserve	EUR 14 million
Breakdown by country (if applicable)	
- Syria	EUR 32 million
- Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Egypt	EUR 32 million

<b>Timing</b>
Funds are needed as from 30 June 2015

<b>Why is the additional funding needed?</b>
<p>The violence continues relentlessly inside Syria. More than 16 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, 12.2 million of whom inside Syria. 5.6 million of those in need are children. In addition, more than 7.6 million people have been internally displaced, of whom around 4.8 million reside in hard-to-reach areas, including at least 440 000 people trapped in areas besieged by either government or opposition forces.</p> <p>The rapid rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has further complicated the situation, changing the dynamics and geographical frontlines of the conflict. Widespread retaliatory attacks against civilian populations in areas newly liberated with the support of the international coalition are extremely worrying. Likewise, an upsurge in indiscriminate violence in contested areas is having a dramatic impact on civilian populations. Since the beginning of 2015, more than 250 000 persons have been displaced within and across the governorates of Al-Hassakeh, Idleb, Dar'a and Quneitra following violent attacks and aerial bombardments. Many of them have been displaced multiple times, with an unknown number of people living in precarious, temporary arrangements in Aleppo and parts of rural Damascus. These trends urge the reinforcement of humanitarian contingency planning.</p> <p>All parties to the conflict persistently have shown an utter disregard for international</p>

humanitarian and human rights law, with warring parties almost blind to the mandatory distinction between civilians and combatants. Violence, including the indiscriminate reported use of barrel bombs, car bombs, mortars and shelling continue to cause civilian deaths and injuries.

The status of the health sector is the most worrisome in Syria. Facilities have collapsed and the population has almost no access to surgical treatment, post-operation rehabilitation etc. There is a clear lack of drugs and of medical staff in the country. An average of 25 000 people are being injured each month, an increasing number of whom experience complications due to the severe shortage of surgical supplies.

The destruction of water and electricity infrastructure in contested areas is impacting thousands of people (over 700 000 people affected in Aleppo Governorate alone), not only in terms of access to clean water, but also in increasing the risk of the spread of diseases. Similarly, attacks, shelling and bombing have destroyed a number of schools, hospitals and markets, disrupting already scarce basic services needed for peoples' survival.

The capacity of host communities is under immense strain. Reportedly there are increasing restrictions on some roads and access to cities and villages to prevent the arrival of numbers of internally displaced who in some areas outnumber the local population. Providing adequate shelter for this uprooted population is a major concern.

Humanitarian access to people in need in Syria is severely constrained by insecurity, administrative and bureaucratic impediments as well as systematic access denials. There has been an overall decrease in the number of beneficiaries reached through cross-line deliveries, including life-saving health assistance. Additionally, insecurity and increasing pressures on humanitarian actors to work in and across areas of control under different armed groups are contributing to gaps and delays in humanitarian assistance compared to the rising scale of needs in Syria. Further scaling up of cross border operations is urgently needed to assist the estimated 2 million people that can be reached through cross-border assistance deliveries.

In addition to the further rising needs inside Syria, almost four million Syrian refugees have sought safety in **neighbouring countries** (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt). The local governments are facing immense security, social, economic and political pressures in hosting this large number of refugees, with tensions growing towards the refugee communities. As a result, border restrictions have been tightened for persons fleeing conflict and persecution in Syria.

In **Turkey**, the current number of nearly 1.8 million registered Syrian refugees is projected, to rise to 2.5 million in the course of 2015. The large majority of them have found refuge in host communities, with one third (300 000) spread over 25 camps. Insufficient access to health, education, livelihoods and adequate shelter for off-camp refugees remains of concern, with limited current international assistance and capacity of local actors.

In **Lebanon**, which hosts the largest refugee per capita rate in the world with almost one in four residents being Syrian refugees, the government tightened the previous open-border policy in January 2015. In absence of a clear mechanism to assess the refugees' eligibility according to humanitarian criteria, the borders can be considered *de facto*

closed. In addition, refugee registrations have been suspended upon government request, further aggravating the livelihoods and protection situation.

**In Jordan**, asylum seekers remain stranded at the border with Syria in dire conditions waiting to get access. The number of severely wounded refugees that were no longer allowed to enter Jordan unless there was a guarantee that their medical expenses would be covered has almost doubled.

A proportion of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees are now so traumatised that they find the situation intolerable, to the extent that they are prepared to pay, using whatever meagre resources they possessed to migrate away from the conflict zone. This push factor also contributes to the migration problem (notably in the areas of Eastern and south Mediterranean) which then presses on the borders of the European Member States.

#### **What will it be used for?**

The extra funds 2015 (EUR 64 million) will be used to respond to the projected increase in needs in Syria and neighbouring countries and will allow for supporting operations until the first semester of 2016.

The EU humanitarian assistance will go primarily for supporting life-saving medical emergency responses, the provision of essential drugs, food and nutritional items, safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), shelter, distribution of basic non-food items (NFIs) and protection to help the most vulnerable families (IDPs, refugees, host communities).

## EU contributions to the civil unrest in Syria Crisis

Donor	Commitments* (in EUR)
	TOTAL 2011-2015
Austria	9.375.000 €
Belgium	25.435.898 €
Bulgaria	295.874 €
Croatia	426.541 €
Czech Republic	3.668.972 €
Denmark	75.604.982 €
Estonia	1.309.806 €
France	54.793.221 €
Finland	44.018.552 €
Germany	480.805.470 €
Greece	250.000 €
Hungary	523.807 €
Ireland	30.989.324 €
Italy	54.203.928 €
Latvia	93.000 €
Lithuania	103.716 €
Luxembourg	17.985.279 €
Malta	75.000 €
Netherlands	118.340.180 €
Poland	3.285.527 €
Portugal	240.000 €
Romania	379.780 €
Slovakia	190.000 €
Slovenia	150.000 €
Spain	19.327.533 €
Sweden	82.038.337 €
United Kingdom	944.352.025 €
<b>TOTAL MEMBER STATES</b>	<b>1.968.261.753 €</b>
<b>EU Humanitarian aid budget</b>	<b>755.732.843 €</b>
<b>TOTAL EU</b>	<b>2.723.994.596 €</b>

\*In cash and in kind