



Council of the
European Union

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"A" ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
No. Cion doc.:	9404/15 FIN 398 - COM(2015) 281 final
Subject:	Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund for the payment of advances

1. On 28 May 2015, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund for a total amount of EUR 50 million in commitment and payment appropriations.

The purpose of this proposal is to allow the timely payment of advances in case of natural disasters in Member States or in a country involved in accession negotiations with the European Union.

2. During the Conciliation Committee meeting on 13/14 November 2015, the European Parliament and the Council reached a political agreement on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund for that purpose for an amount of EUR 50 million in commitment and payment appropriations in the framework of the joint text concerning the 2016 budget.

3. The Council is invited to confirm the agreement reached on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund and to consequently adopt the text of the Decision, according to the first paragraph of Point 11 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013¹, as set out in the Annex.
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¹ Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management (OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1).

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**on the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund for the payment of advances**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund¹, and in particular Article 4a(4) thereof,

Having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management², and in particular Point 11 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Union Solidarity Fund (the "Fund") aims to enable the Union to respond in a rapid, efficient and flexible manner to emergency situations and to show solidarity with the population of regions struck by disasters.
- (2) The Fund is not to exceed a maximum amount of EUR 500 million (2011 prices), as laid down in Article 10 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013³.
- (3) Article 4a(4) of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 foresees that the Fund may be mobilised in an amount up to a maximum of EUR 50 000 000 for the payment of advances, and the corresponding appropriations entered into the general budget of the Union,

¹ OJ L 311, 14.11.2002, p. 3.

² OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

³ Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884).

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

For the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2016, the European Union Solidarity Fund shall be mobilised to provide the sum of EUR 50 000 000 in commitment and payment appropriations for the payment of advances.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at

For the European Parliament

For the Council

The President

The President
