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COVER NOTE

From:	Ms Kristalina GEORGIEVA, Vice-president of the European Commission
date of receipt:	16 March 2016
To:	Mr Jeroen DIJSSELBLOEM, President of the Council of the European Union

Subject:	Proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 05/2016 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2016
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Delegations will find attached Commission document DEC 05/2016.

Encl.: DEC 05/2016



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

BRUSSELS, 14/03/2016

GENERAL BUDGET - 2016
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLES: 23, 40

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° DEC 05/2016

FROM

CHAPTER - 4002 Reserves for financial interventions

ARTICLE - 40 02 42 Emergency aid reserve (Carry Over)

Commitments

-150 000 000,00

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 (Carry Over)

Commitments

150 000 000,00

I. DECREASE

I.1

a) Heading

40 02 42 - Emergency aid reserve (Carry Over)

b) Figure at 01/03/2016

	Commitments
1A Appropriation in budget (Carry Over)	219 377 866,00
1B Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0,00
2 Transfers	0,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	219 377 866,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	0,00
5 Amount not used/available (3-4)	219 377 866,00
6 Requirements up to year-end	69 377 866,00
7 Proposed decrease	150 000 000,00
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1A)	68,38 %
9 Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 26(1)(b) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Application	n/a

c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over from previous year)

	Commitments
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	0,00
2 Appropriations available on 01/03/2016	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.

II. INCREASE

II.1

a) Heading

23 02 01 - Delivery of rapid, effective and needs-based humanitarian aid and food aid (Carry Over)

b) Figure at 01/03/2016

	Commitments
1A Appropriation in budget (Carry Over)	0,00
1B Appropriation in budget (EFTA)	0,00
2 Transfers	0,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1A+1B+2)	0,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	0,00
5 Amount not used/available (3-4)	0,00
6 Requirements up to year-end	150 000 000,00
7 Proposed increase	150 000 000,00
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) of the Financial Regulation, calculated in accordance with Article 14 of the Rules of Application	n/a

c) Receipts arising from recovery (carried over from previous year)

	Commitments
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	306 860,31
2 Appropriations available on 01/03/2016	306 860,31
3 Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	0,00 %

d) Detailed grounds for the transfer

In line with the Commission's Communication of 23 September 2015 "Managing the refugee crisis" (COM(2015) 490 final) and as announced in Amending Letter 2 to the Draft Budget 2016, the Commission is hereby presenting a request for the mobilisation of the Emergency Aid Reserve for an amount of EUR 150 million in commitment appropriations in order to reinforce the humanitarian response to the Syria crisis, which continues to generate millions of refugees, displaced people and people in need inside Syria and in the neighbouring countries.

The additional funding will be used to cover essential needs of Internally Displaced Persons and refugees in Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon. For details, please refer to the attached annexes.

As concerns the corresponding payment appropriations, they have already been catered for through Amending Letter 2 to Draft Budget 2016.

SYRIA and NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Key financial information for the crisis	
Total amount in 2015	EUR 377 million
Amount in the 2016 World Wide Decision	EUR 200 million
Other EU funding pledged for 2016 - European Neighbourhood Instrument - Development Cooperation Instrument - Instrument for Pre-Accession - Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace - European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights	EUR 188 million EUR 10 million EUR 37 million EUR 74 million EUR 1 million
Other donors (United States, Canada, Australia, Japan, Russian Federation, Kuwait...)	For 2015, according to the Financial Tracking Service: USD 776 million

Additional needs	
Total needs	EUR 130 million
When the appropriations are needed	March 2016
Breakdown by country (if applicable)	Syria: EUR 50 million Lebanon: EUR 37 million Jordan: EUR 33 Million Turkey: EUR 10 million

Why the additional funding is needed?
<p>Nearly five years after the beginning of the conflict, the violence in Syria continues to intensify. Inside Syria, 13.5 million people - two thirds of the population - out of which more than 6 million children are now in need of urgent assistance. The number of registered Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries is over 4.4 million, including more than 2.5 million in Turkey, 1.1 million in Lebanon and 630 000 in Jordan.</p> <p>In Syria, needs are growing amid the intensification of violence and systematic serious violations to International Humanitarian Law (IHIL). Widespread insecurity, crumbling economy and extremely limited availability and access to basic services (in particular health, water and sanitation) have led in the past months to an increasing number of people in need of life-saving assistance. Failing to address the needs of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) inside Syria risks pushing them out of Syria and joining the flow of refugees.</p> <p>During 2015, humanitarian agencies were forced to scale down their support inside Syria, as unmet requirements, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs financial tracking system, amounted to almost USD 1.65 billion. The 2016 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), recently published by the UN, estimates a requirement of USD 3.2 billion to address the needs of 13.5 million people inside the country following a Whole-of-Syria approach.</p> <p>Support will be focussed on implementing partners working in the areas of highest displacement, namely in Aleppo, Daraa, Deir Ezzor, rural Damascus as well as in the</p>

governorates that are supporting the biggest number of IDPs, including the area of Lattaquie and Tartous, from which IDPs are now fleeing towards Europe via Turkey. The priority sectors of intervention will be health, water, sanitation and hygiene, protection and food. Implementing partners will include UN agencies, International Organisations and International Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

Another worrying dramatic development in the last weeks is the situation of over 16 000 people stranded at the border between Syria and **Jordan**. Their number has risen sharply following the recent intensification of conflict in Syria and is expected to continue increasing. Additional funding would allow to continue supporting partners responding to such increasing needs.

In 2015 the refugees' protection space and living conditions for refugees in **Lebanon** kept on deteriorating. The border with Syria has been *de facto* closed and refugees' registration suspended. In addition, the restrictions on free movement and residence entitlements, combined with lack of livelihood opportunities and stretched public services (health care, water and sanitation, education, etc.) have worsened living conditions and vulnerability levels. Additional funds will be key to address at least the most urgent needs of the 30% most vulnerable refugees, who live mostly in informal settlements and host communities.

In 2015, **Turkey** was announced to host the largest refugee community in the world with figures to date reaching over 2.7 million including over 2.5 million Syrian refugees - 54% of the Syrian refugee population in the region. Over 1 million of these refugees were registered only in 2015. Despite the overwhelming size of the refugee population in Turkey, international donor funding commitments for 2015 only reached 37% of the Syria regional refugee and resilience plan (3RP) chapter for Turkey. By that, this particular refugee appeal is the most underfunded one among Syria's neighbouring countries.

In addition, regardless of enormous efforts from the government as well as generosity from host communities, local municipalities and Turkish civil society organisations, many of the Syrian refugees (over 90%) that remain in urban and rural areas outside the camps, are often unaccounted for and are surviving under very challenging circumstances. Access to information, registration and to public services, including education and healthcare, is acutely limited. Many off-camp refugees live in inadequate conditions or in open areas, with rents often causing great strain on their already depleted resources. The additional resources will help address those needs.

What for?

The additional funding for inside Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey will allow addressing the steadily increasing humanitarian needs described above.

EU contributions to the civil unrest in Syria Crisis

Donor	TOTAL 2011-2016 (in EUR)
Austria	18.999.000
Belgium	71.810.898
Bulgaria	295.874
Croatia	426.541
Czech Republic	5.498.154
Denmark	137.551.447
Estonia	2.066.478
France	61.803.338
Finland	52.928.552
Germany	692.845.925
Greece	250.000
Hungary	523.807
Ireland	42.739.324
Italy	67.500.791
Latvia	93.000
Lithuania	193.716
Luxembourg	19.928.383
Malta	75.000
Netherlands	196.906.318
Poland	3.784.009
Portugal	240.000
Romania	876.137
Slovakia	190.000
Slovenia	180.000
Spain	31.482.842
Sweden	109.047.551
United Kingdom	1.017.759.617
TOTAL MEMBER STATES	2.535.996.703
EU budget	1.230.732.843
TOTAL EU	3.766.729.546

IRAQ

Key financial information for the crisis	
Total amount in 2015	EUR 76.55 million
Amount in the 2016 World Wide Decision	EUR 50 million
Other EU funding for 2015 (Development Cooperation Instrument, Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace etc.)	EUR 56 million
Other donors (United States, Canada, Japan, Australia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait etc.)	2015, according to the Financial Tracking Service: USD 545 million

Additional needs	
Total needs	EUR 20 million
When the appropriations are needed	March 2016
Breakdown by country (if applicable)	n.a.

Why the additional funding is needed?
<p>Iraq faces a complex and fast growing humanitarian crisis that continues to deteriorate due to the intensification of fighting in Anbar and towards Mosul, with high impact on the civilian population. Needs are increasing, in many places dramatically, and are outpacing the ability of the government and its partners to respond.</p> <p>Nearly one third of Iraq's population (10 million people) need help as a direct consequence of the violence. Over 3 million Iraqis have fled their homes and 3 million more are living under Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) control. Depending on the intensity of fighting and the scale of violence in the months ahead, 11 million Iraqis, perhaps even 12 to 13 million, may need some form of humanitarian assistance by the end of 2016. More than 500 000 people are expected to flee their homes during the year, the majority from towns and districts along the Mosul and Anbar corridors. An additional 1 million might be impacted by the battle for Mosul. Continuous fighting, in Ramadi and Falluja, in Anbar governorate and around Hawija, in Kirkuk governorate, has already generated new recent displacements, requiring additional emergency lifesaving support.</p> <p>Vulnerabilities are increasing dramatically. The Iraq 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), a highly prioritised appeal to be launched at the end of January, is requesting USD 861 million in humanitarian support (this amount does not include what would be needed in case of an offensive to Mosul). The plan indicates that 8.5 million people require health care, 8.2 million protection support and 6.6 million water and sanitation. Nearly 2.4 million people are food insecure and 2 million people need shelter and household goods.</p>

What for?
<p>The additional EU funding will allow to address the increased needs, inter alia, in terms of life saving assistance to newly displaced people (e.g. through the Rapid Response Mechanism), emergency health, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, non-food items and food aid. It will support Iraqi Internally Displaced People, vulnerable host communities as well as Syrian refugees in Iraq, in the governorates most affected by displacement. It will also allow enlarging the humanitarian footprint and presence of implementing partners throughout the country for a</p>

more timely and cost-efficient response.

Other relevant information

IRAQ CRISIS OVERVIEW - EU and MS SUPPORT

Member State/ Partner support to the Iraq Crisis (as of 02/02/2016)	TOTAL IRAQ 2015 (in million EUR)	TOTAL IRAQ 2016 (in million EUR)
Austria	2,45	
Belgium	4,00	
Czech Republic	0,38	
Denmark	5,41	0,87
Finland	1,80	
France	3,42	0,36
Germany	61,68	
Ireland	0,58	
Italy	5,65	
Lithuania	0,004	
Luxembourg	0,70	
Netherlands	4,00	
Romania	0,04	
Spain	1,50	
Sweden	11,27	
United Kingdom	49,68	
EU budget	76,55	50,00
TOTAL	229,11	51,23

