



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 20 November 2017  
(OR. en)

14585/17

FIN 737

**COVER NOTE**

---

From:	Mr Günther OETTINGER, Member of the European Commission
date of receipt:	20 November 2017
To:	Mr Märt KIVINE, President of the Council of the European Union
Subject:	Proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 33/2017 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2017

---

Delegations will find attached Commission document DEC 33/2017.

---

Encl.: DEC 33/2017



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

BRUSSELS, 17/11/2017

GENERAL BUDGET - 2017  
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLES: 22, 23

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° **DEC 33/2017**

---

**FROM**

**CHAPTER - 2202** Enlargement process and strategy

ITEM - 22 02 03 02 Support for economic, social and territorial development and related progressive alignment with the Union acquis

Commitments

-62 000 000,00

**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

Commitments

62 000 000,00

## I. DECREASE

### I.1

#### a) Heading

**22 02 03 02 - Support for economic, social and territorial development and related progressive alignment with the Union acquis**

#### b) Figure at 16/11/2017

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriation in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	751 187 000,00
2 Transfers	140 353 000,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1+2)	891 540 000,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	605 000 000,00
<b>5 Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>286 540 000,00</b>
<b>6 Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>224 540 000,00</b>
<b>7 Proposed decrease</b>	<b>62 000 000,00</b>
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1)	8,25 %
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)

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	0,00
2 Appropriations available on 16/11/2017	40 000,02
3 Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	n/a

#### d) Detailed grounds for the transfer

The Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) Committee approved at the 16 November meeting amendments to the multi-annual programmes for IPA-Turkey.

The amendments aim to implement a reorientation of the priorities of these programmes to areas of special EU interest, as well as to carefully take into account the lack of maturity of projects and absorption capacity in two sectors, namely environment and transport. The total allocations for 2017 for the four programmes therefore add up to EUR 221,5 million instead of the EUR 310,9 million originally planned in the Indicative Strategy Paper of 2014-2020 and in the adopted 2017 budget, i.e. an overall reduction of EUR 89 million.

EUR 62 million can therefore be made available for transfer for humanitarian needs linked to the Syria crisis.

## **II. INCREASE**

### **II.1**

#### **a) Heading**

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

#### **b) Figure at 16/11/2017**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriation in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	893 100 000,00
2 Transfers	260 394 634,00
3 Final appropriation for the year (1+2)	1 153 494 634,00
4 Utilisation of final appropriation	1 124 994 634,00
<b>5 Amount not used/available (3-4)</b>	<b>28 500 000,00</b>
<b>6 Requirements up to year-end</b>	<b>90 500 000,00</b>
<b>7 Proposed increase</b>	<b>62 000 000,00</b>
8 Increase as percentage of appropriation in budget (7/1)	6,94 %
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)**

	<b>Commitments</b>
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	484 791,50
2 Appropriations available on 16/11/2017	154 791,50
3 Rate of utilisation [(1-2)/1]	68,07 %

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

The humanitarian situation in Syria remains of serious concern. The number of new displacements reached 1,3 million in 2017 alone and continues to increase.

An estimated 13,5 million Syrians are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance and protection; 6 million of them are children and 4 million live in so-called □hard-to-reach areas. Over 620 000 people are trapped in around 31 areas besieged by either government forces and/or non-state armed groups, representing a 5% increase compared to 2016.

Given the recent developments in North Eastern Syria and Eastern Ghouta, there is need for emergency interventions such as the provision of food, water and sanitation and vital medical support to alleviate the suffering of the affected people.

As of 31 October, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 2017 appeal in the amount of USD 1,4 billion for emergency operations inside Syria and in neighbouring countries is funded at only 49%.

In Lebanon, the country with the world highest number of refugees per capita, needs remain very high. The additional funding will be essential to provide assistance to vulnerable Syrian refugees, in order to meet their food and non-food needs through multi-purpose cash assistance.

Similarly, in Jordan, the situation of Syrian refugees remains dire, particularly for those stranded at the Berm, at the border between Syria and Jordan.

To meet these multiple needs, a reinforcement of EUR 62 million is needed to ensure an adequate emergency response to be allocated to implementing partners operating on the ground.

As of 13 November, the overall implementation rate in commitment appropriations in the Humanitarian aid chapter 23 02 is 99%, whereas for payment appropriations it is 81%. The current balance in the Operational Reserve is at EUR 10,1 million and needs to be preserved to cover crises and natural disasters until the end of the year.