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COVER NOTE

From:	Mr Günther OETTINGER, Member of the European Commission
date of receipt:	21 September 2018
To:	Mr Hartwig LÖGER, President of the Council of the European Union
Subject:	Proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 27/2018 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2018

Delegations will find attached Commission document DEC 27/2018.

Encl.: DEC 27/2018



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

BRUSSELS, 21/09/2018

GENERAL BUDGET - 2018
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLES: 21, 23, 40

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° DEC 27/2018

FROM

CHAPTER - 2102 Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)

ITEM - 21 02 51 08 Geographical cooperation with Africa, Caribbean and Pacific states

Payments -8 000 000,00

CHAPTER - 4002 Reserves for financial interventions

ARTICLE - 40 02 42 Emergency aid reserve

Commitments -10 000 000,00

TO

CHAPTER - 2302 Humanitarian aid, food assistance and disaster preparedness

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

Commitments 10 000 000,00

Payments 8 000 000,00

I. DECREASE

I.1

a) Heading

21 02 51 08 - Geographical cooperation with Africa, Caribbean and Pacific states

b) Figure at 17/09/2018

	Payments
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	85 163 000,00
2 Transfers	-469 213,80
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	84 693 786,20
4 Appropriations already used	28 870 992,99
5 Appropriations available (3-4)	55 822 793,21
6 Decrease proposed	8 000 000,00
7 Total appropriations up to year end (5-6)	47 822 793,21
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriations in budget (7/1)	9,39 %
9 Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriation for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 30(1)(b) of the Financial Regulation	n/a

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

	Payments
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	516 981,20
2 Appropriations available on 17/09/2018	141 454,17
3 Implementation rate [(1-2)/1]	72,64 %

d) Detailed grounds for the transfer

Delays in the implementation of projects have postponed certain payments to next year. Therefore, the total amount of EUR 19,9 million in payment appropriations can be made available for other purposes, of which EUR 11,9 million through the Global Transfer (DEC 22/2018), whereas EUR 8 million will be used for this transfer.

I.2

a) Heading

40 02 42 - Emergency aid reserve

b) Figure at 17/09/2018

	Commitments
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	344 600 000,00
2 Transfers	-171 697 884,00
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	172 902 116,00
4 Appropriations already used	0,00
5 Appropriations available (3-4)	172 902 116,00
6 Decrease proposed	10 000 000,00
7 Total appropriations up to year end (5-6)	162 902 116,00
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriations in budget (7/1)	2,90 %
9 Decrease, as a percentage of the final appropriations for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 30(1)(b) of the Financial Regulation	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 17/09/2018	0,00
3 Implementaiton rate [(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 assistance

b) Figure at 17/09/2018

	Commitments	Payments
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	1 026 028 642,00	1 040 825 501,00
2 Transfers	174 294 634,00	232 500 000,00
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	1 200 323 276,00	1 273 325 501,00
4 Appropriations already used	1 148 694 634,00	965 716 318,81
5 Appropriations available (3-4)	51 628 642,00	307 609 182,19
6 Increase requested	10 000 000,00	8 000 000,00
7 Total appropriations up to year end (5+6)	61 628 642,00	315 609 182,19
8 Increase as percentage of appropriations in budget (7/1)	0,97 %	0,77 %
9 Increase, as a percentage of the final appropriations for the year, in the sum of transfers referred to in Article 30(1)(b) of the Financial Regulation	n/a	n/a

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

	Commitments	Payments
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	314,12	91 116,59
2 Appropriations available on 17/09/2018	314,12	0,00
3 Implementation rate $[(1-2)/1]$	0,00 %	100,00 %

d) Detailed grounds for the transfer

The humanitarian needs of the already vulnerable population in Gaza have been rising rapidly in recent months due to the escalation of hostilities and violence, the extreme access restrictions and the significant cuts in funding for humanitarian programmes.

In particular, the recent US decision to withdraw from funding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the largest humanitarian actor in Palestine, is putting at risk the delivery of essential emergency services for almost two-thirds of the population (Palestine refugees) in Gaza.

The funding cuts are having a particularly strong impact on the health sector, which is significantly overloaded by the huge number of casualties. 179 Palestinians have been killed and over 19 000 injured since 30 March 2018, following clashes with Israeli forces at the perimeter fence in the context of the Palestinian Great March of Return. There is therefore an urgent need to support UNRWA in this critical sector.

As of 10 September, the UN Humanitarian Response Plan for Palestine for 2018 of USD 539,7 million is funded at only 29%, which is an all-time low.

EUR 10 million in commitment appropriations is therefore requested in addition to the EUR 27 million already programmed for this crisis in 2018. EUR 8 million in payment appropriations is also requested to cover the necessary pre-financing in 2018.

The additional amount will be used to support the provision of health-care services in Gaza managed through UNRWA. The health system is on the brink of collapse due to the closure of the strip, the ongoing energy crisis, inconsistent payment of public sector salaries and permanent shortages of medicines and disposables. Beyond the immediate needs for emergency health care, a significant number of patients are also in need of post-operative and rehabilitative care.

As of 10 September, the overall implementation rate of commitment appropriations of the humanitarian aid chapter 23 02 was at 96%, while for payment appropriations it was at 75%. The remaining balance of EUR 42 million in the Operational Reserve needs to be preserved to cover urgent crises until the end of the year.

The Commission has considered and has been able to identify availabilities from other policy areas in Heading 4 in the amount of EUR 8 million in payment appropriations. The Commission therefore requests the mobilisation of the Emergency Aid Reserve for EUR 10 million in commitment appropriations.

ANNEX

COMMISSION TRANSFER PROPOSALS RELATED TO THE EMERGENCY AID RESERVE IN 2018

The table below shows the transfer proposals transmitted to the Budgetary Authority to date during 2018 which relate to the Emergency Aid Reserve (EAR), and the remaining amount of the EAR reserve following the approval of these proposals.

Transfer Ref	Content	Commitment Appropriations from 2018 Reserve (EUR)	Commitment Appropriations from Reserve carried-over (EUR)	Payment Appropriations from 2018 Reserve (EUR)
	Initial appropriations	344.600.000	61.705.366	344.600.000
DEC 07	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for the Rohingya crisis		23.403.250	15.021.500
DEC 08	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Somalia	11.697.884	38.302.116	50.000.000
DEC 09	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Yemen	40.000.000		40.000.000
DEC 12	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Ethiopia	35.000.000		35.000.000
DEC 13	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Democratic Republic of Congo	25.000.000		25.000.000
DEC 14	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Sudan	10.000.000		10.000.000
DEC 15	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Lake Chad Basin Countries: Chad, Cameroon and Nigeria	30.000.000		30.000.000
DEC 16	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Afghanistan	20.000.000		20.000.000
DEC 25	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Yemen	47.800.000		-
DEC 26	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Sahel	50.000.000		-
DEC 27	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Palestine	10.000.000		-
	Total of Proposals	279.497.884	61.705.366	225.021.500
	Remainder	65.102.116	0	119.578.500
	Total remainder of commitment appropriations	65.102.116		