



Council of the
European Union

078584/EU XXVI. GP
Eingelangt am 18/10/19

**Brussels, 18 October 2019
(OR. en)**

13294/19

FIN 673

COVER NOTE

From:	Mr Günther OETTINGER, Member of the European Commission
date of receipt:	18 October 2019
To:	Mr Kimmo TIILIKAINEN, President of the Council of the European Union
Subject:	Transfer of appropriations No DEC 21/2019 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2019

Delegations will find attached Commission document DEC 21/2019.

Encl.: DEC 21/2019



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

BRUSSELS, 18/10/2019

GENERAL BUDGET - 2019
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITLES: 23, 40

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS N° DEC 21/2019

FROM

CHAPTER - 4002 Reserves for financial interventions

ARTICLE - 40 02 42 Emergency aid reserve

Commitments

-100 000 000,00

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

100 000 000,00

I. DECREASE

I.1

a) Heading

40 02 42 - Emergency aid reserve

b) Figures at 07/10/2019

	Commitments
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	351 500 000,00
2 Transfers	-205 897 884,00
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	145 602 116,00
4 Appropriations already used	0,00
5 Appropriations available (3-4)	145 602 116,00
6 Decrease proposed	100 000 000,00
7 Total appropriations up to year end (5-6)	45 602 116,00
8 Decrease as percentage of appropriations in budget (6/1)	28,45 %
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 07/10/2019	0,00
3 Implementation rate [(1-2)/1]	n/a

d) Detailed grounds for the decrease

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) Figures at 07/10/2019

	Commitments
1 Appropriations in budget (Initial Budget + AB)	1 592 271 335,00
2 Transfers	205 897 884,00
3 Total appropriations for the year (1+2)	1 798 169 219,00
4 Appropriations already used	1 748 844 650,00
5 Appropriations available (3-4)	49 324 569,00
6 Increase requested	100 000 000,00
7 Total appropriations up to year end (5+6)	149 324 569,00
8 Increase as percentage of appropriations in budget (6/1)	6,28 %
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

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

	Commitments
1 Appropriations available at start of the year	93 908,14
2 Appropriations available on 07/10/2019	28 001,14
3 Implementation rate $[(1-2)/1]$	70,18 %

d) Detailed grounds for the increase

- **Afghanistan – EUR 40 million**

In Afghanistan, the recent suspension of the peace talks, current elections and the uncertainty about the peace process are producing a sharp increase in violence and in civilian casualties. This adds to an already fluid situation influenced by the recent fights between the Islamic State (IS) and Taliban. Moreover, the food crisis and a dramatic increase of forced returns of Afghans from Iran and Turkey have led to a significant increase in the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance – 6,3 million people in Afghanistan, twice as much as in 2018 (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Humanitarian Response Plan).

The number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan (currently over 3 million) is also increasing. Up to 4 million Afghan refugees are hosted in Iran, where the economic downturn is pushing many refugees to move to Turkey or return to Afghanistan. Due to recent increasing tensions towards Afghan refugees in those countries, it has become urgent to step up assistance for both the most vulnerable refugees and for local communities.

EUR 40 million in commitment appropriations is requested in addition to the EUR 38,5 million already programmed for this crisis for 2019. The additional funding will be used to respond to the needs of displaced people, returnees, war victims etc., through multi-sector assistance such as food/nutrition, shelter, health, including war trauma care, water and sanitation, protection and education in emergencies.

- **Sahel – EUR 35 million**

A combination of expanding conflicts, inter and intra community violence as well as climate change induced shocks, led to a significant, unforeseen deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger (G5) in the course of 2019. As a result, the number of refugees and internally displaced population increased by more than 550 000 (+46% in the five countries and +123% in Central Sahel) to 1-670 000. Emergency declarations have been issued for Central Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger) by the World Food Programme and United Nations Refugee Agency.

EUR 35 million in commitment appropriations is requested in addition to the EUR 100 million already programmed for this crisis for 2019. The additional funding will be used to scale up the existing Rapid Response Mechanism, to provide multi-sectoral assistance to forced displacement, health and nutrition, humanitarian access, civil-military coordination, food assistance, and protection.

- **Sudan – EUR 25 million**

In Sudan, the humanitarian situation has worsened in the course of this year due to the combined effect of political instability, violent repression against peaceful civilian demonstrations and a fast deteriorating economic crisis. Overall, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has increased throughout the year from the initial estimate of 5 700 000 to 8 500 000 people in July. This increase is for a large part linked to the large increase in the number of people affected by severe food insecurity and massive flooding in August.

EUR 25 million in commitment appropriations is requested in addition to the EUR 30,7 million already programmed for this crisis for 2019. The additional funding will be used to respond to the cholera outbreak in Sudan, in particular the support for the delivery of health services.

As of the end of September, the overall implementation rate of commitment appropriations of the humanitarian aid chapter 23 02 was at 97,1% of available appropriations and the implementation in payment appropriations was at 68,3%. The Operational Reserve for Humanitarian aid currently stands at EUR 40 million and needs to be preserved to cater for other, smaller humanitarian emergencies or sudden disasters between now and year end.

The Commission has not been able to identify other available resources in Heading 4. Therefore, it requests the mobilisations of the Emergency Aid Reserve for a total of EUR 100 million in commitment appropriations for the crises in Afghanistan, Sahel and Sudan.

ANNEX

COMMISSION TRANSFER PROPOSALS RELATED TO THE EMERGENCY AID RESERVE IN 2019

The table below shows the transfer proposals transmitted to the Budgetary Authority to date during 2019, 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 carried-over Reserve (EUR)	Commitment Appropriations 2019 Reserve (EUR)	Payment Appropriations 2019 Reserve (EUR)
	Initial appropriations	34 102 116	351 500 000	351 500 000
DEC 02	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Yemen	34 102 116	45 897 884	
DEC 03	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Venezuela		50 000 000	
DEC 04	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for South Sudan		30 000 000	
DEC 13	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for the Democratic Republic of Congo and countries in the Horn of Africa		80 000 000	
DEC 21	Mobilisation of the EAR for additional humanitarian aid for Afghanistan, Sahel and Sudan		100 000 000	
	Total transfer proposals	34 102 116	305 897 884	0
	Remainder	0	45 602 116	351 500 000
	Total remainder of commitment appropriations	45 602 116		