



Brussels, 11 December 2020
(OR. en)

13930/20

FIN 942
INST 304

'I' ITEM NOTE

From: Budget Committee
To: Permanent Representatives Committee

Subject: Transfer of appropriations No DEC 2/2020 within Section VI - European Economic and Social Committee- of the general budget for 2020

1. On 3 December 2020, the European Economic and Social Committee submitted to the Council proposal for transfer of appropriations No DEC 2/2020. This transfer was submitted to the Council already on 26 November 2020 as INF 2/2020, but after duly justified objections were raised in the Budget Committee in accordance with Article 29(2) of the Financial Regulation¹, the proposal was re-submitted in accordance with Article 31 of the Financial Regulation.

¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).

The purpose of this proposal is to transfer a total amount of EUR 676 996 from Articles 2 1 4 (*Technical equipment and installations*), 2 3 0 (*Stationery, office supplies and miscellaneous consumables*) and 2 3 6 (*Postage on correspondence and delivery charges*), and Items 1 2 0 0 (*Remuneration and allowances*), 2 0 2 4 (*Energy consumption*), 2 0 2 6 (*Security and surveillance*), 2 0 2 8 (*Insurance*) and 2 5 4 8 (*Interpreting*) to Items 1 6 3 8 (*Early childhood centre and approved day nurseries*), 2 1 0 0 (*Purchase, servicing and maintenance of equipment and software, and related work*) and 2 1 0 2 (*Outside assistance for the operation, development and maintenance of software systems*).

2. The European Economic and Social Committee proposes to strengthen 3 budget lines in order to further address the backlog in IT infrastructure, as well as to cover the higher than expected amount of the EESC's contribution to the costs of the Union nursery centre.
3. The Budget Committee examined this proposal for a transfer at its meeting on 8 December 2020.
4. At this meeting, a vast majority of delegations expressed concerns with regard to the proposed transfer, related mainly to the need to make investments in ICT equipment on the basis of a comprehensive action plan for the new ways of working, and to allow the financing of expenditure, which is necessary in view of the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Taking into account the above mentioned considerations, the Presidency proposed to amend the amount of the European Economic and Social Committee's proposal for transfer of appropriations DEC 2/2020 in accordance with Article 31(8) of the Financial Regulation.

The Budget Committee examined this Presidency proposal through a written consultation, which ended on 11 December 2020 without any objections being raised. The changes in the Presidency proposal compared to the European Economic and Social Committee's proposal for transfer of appropriations DEC 2/2020 are recorded in the Annex.

5. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:

- confirm its agreement on the proposed transfer of appropriations as set out in point 4 above; and
- decide, in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 12(1) of the Council's Rules of Procedure and Article 1 of Council Decision 2020/430¹, that the Council uses the written procedure for its approval.

The General Secretariat of the Council will inform the European Economic and Social Committee, as well as the European Parliament of the Council's decision.

¹ Council Decision (EU) 2020/430 of 23 March 2020 on a temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union (OJ L 88 I, 24.3.2020, p. 1).

**Amendment of the amount of European Economic and Social Committee's transfer
No DEC 2/2020¹**

(in EUR)

			Debit	Credit
From items and articles	1200	Remuneration and allowances	133 000	
	2024	Energy consumption	206 865 166 526	
	2026	Security and surveillance	39 666 31 947	
	2028	Insurance	4 560	
	214	Technical equipment and installations	2 527	
	230	Stationery, office supplies and miscellaneous consumables	73 002 58 809	
	236	Postage on correspondence and delivery charges	13 456	
	2548	Interpreting	203 920	
To items	1638	Early Childhood Centre and approved day nurseries		133 000
	2100	Purchase, servicing and maintenance of equipment and software, and related work		266 171 203 920
	2102	Outside assistance for the operation, development and maintenance of software systems		277 825
		TOTAL	676 996 614 745	676 996 614 745

¹ Changes in the Presidency proposal compared to European Economic and Social Committee's transfer No DEC 2/2020 are highlighted in **bold** and ~~strikethrough~~.