



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels,
C(2009)

COMMISSION DECISION

of []

AMENDING COMMISSION DECISION C/2009/4019 of 15 May 2009

**on the financing of humanitarian actions in Zimbabwe from the general budget of the
European Union**

(ECHO/ZWE/BUD/2009/01000)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid¹, and in particular Article 2 and 15(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Decision C/2009/4019 adopted on 15 May 2009 provides for the funding of humanitarian aid actions in Zimbabwe from the general budget of the European Union for a total amount of EUR 8,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01, starting from 1 May 2009, with a duration of 12 months ;
- (2) There is need for continuing and timely support for interventions to address outstanding needs in the health and water / sanitation sectors ;
- (3) An assessment of outstanding needs and funding available from other EC sources was carried out during an interservice mission to identify a short-term strategy of support for Zimbabwe in July/August 2009 which has resulted in a decision to rebalance the remaining funding available to Zimbabwe between the two humanitarian budget lines in order to reflect the needs in the different sectors ;
- (4) Partners continue to submit requests for funding of essential health and water and sanitation actions that could not be met from the funds available under Decision C/2009/4019.
- (5) It is therefore appropriate to increase the amount of Decision C/2009/4019 by EUR 5,000,000, so as to meet the objectives of the Decision in the best possible way, that is, to contribute to the recovery of essential health and safe water supply services, and to

¹ OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1

extend its validity from 12 to 18 months, the additional six months being necessary to allow a reasonable implementation period following the increase of the amount of the Decision.

- (6) This brings the total amount of Decision C/2009/4019 up to EUR 13,000,000 from budget article 23 02 01 of the 2009 general budget of the European Union, and its duration to 18 months, taking into account the available budget, other donors' interventions and other factors.
- (7) In accordance with Article 17(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996, the Humanitarian Aid Committee gave a favourable opinion on 27 October 2009.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 1 of Decision C/2009/4019 is replaced by the following:

"1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 13,000,000 for Humanitarian aid to support vulnerable populations in Zimbabwe affected by the breakdown of essential health and water supply services by using article 23 02 01 of the 2009 general budget of the European Union.

2. In accordance with Article 2 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian Actions under this Decision shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:

- To contribute to the recovery of essential health services for the most vulnerable population groups by supporting the strengthening of the emergency preparedness and response capacity, and the provision of vital medicines and medical supplies;

EUR 5,552,194 of this Decision is allocated to this specific objective.

- To contribute to the recovery of safe water supply services for the most vulnerable population groups by supporting the supply of essential water supply chemicals, spare parts and rehabilitation ;

EUR 7,447,806 of this Decision is allocated to this specific objective."

Article 2

Article 3(1) of Decision C/2009/4019 is replaced by the following:

"1. The duration for the implementation of this Decision shall be for a maximum period of 18 months, starting on 1 May 2009."

Done at Brussels, [...]

*For the Commission
Member of the Commission*

<p style="text-align: center;">Decision amending humanitarian Aid Decision C/2009/4019 Article 23 02 01</p>

Title of the Action: Commission Decision amending Commission Decision C/2009/4019 of 15 May 2009 on the financing of humanitarian actions in Zimbabwe from the general budget of the European Union

Location of the action: Zimbabwe

Amount of Decision: EUR 13,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/ZWE/BUD/2009/01000

Supporting Document

1. – Rationale for the amendment

An amount of EUR 25,000,000 was initially earmarked for interventions in Zimbabwe in 2009, of which EUR 10,000,000 from the 2009 general humanitarian aid budget line and EUR15,000,000 from the food aid budget line.

Member States were informed in the Humanitarian Aid Committee of 23 April of the factors which had contributed to a Decision to mobilise this funding in several stages in 2009, rather than in a Global Plan:

- The situation in Zimbabwe is evolving continuously, which may mean that new needs will emerge over the coming months;
- There is need, however, for continuing and timely support for interventions in the health and water / sanitation sectors;
- The timing of food aid/food security cycle cannot be altered: the harvest, and therefore initial crop assessments, takes place in Zimbabwe in April, and the agricultural campaign starts in September;
- The identification of a European Commission short-term strategy of support to the country after the establishment of the Unity Government in February 2009;

In the light of the above, and in order to avoid gaps in funding to humanitarian interventions, it was proposed to the Humanitarian Aid Committee to:

- Commit EUR 8,000,000 from the general humanitarian budget line in May 2009 (the current Decision adopted on 15 May 2009);
- To launch an ad hoc Decision from the food aid budget line in June 2009, amount to be specified as a result of the April programming mission, in order to ensure timely funding to food assistance interventions starting in September 2009 (Decision, adopted 5 August 2009, after approval by the Member States on 1 July 2009 after a written procedure) ;
- To commit the balance of funds earmarked for Zimbabwe in a further ad hoc Decision later in the year, possibly September, in respect of any new needs, or to consolidate actions to be funded from the above Decisions.

The present modification responds to the last point above. On the basis of an assessment of outstanding needs and funding available from other EC sources as a result of the interservice mission to identify a short-term strategy of support for Zimbabwe carried out in July/August 2009, it is proposed to rebalance the remaining funding available to Zimbabwe between the two humanitarian budget lines in order to reflect the needs in the different sectors. Thus, it is proposed to reduce the allocation from the food aid budget line from EUR 15,000,000 to EUR 12,000,000 (of which EUR 9,000,000 already committed), and to increase the allocation from the general budget line from EUR 10,000,000 to EUR 13,000,000 (of which EUR 8,000,000 already committed). The present modification aims to increase the funding of the Decision in order to commit all funds available for 2009. A parallel modification to increase the funding of the Decision mentioned in the second point above has also been proposed. This is illustrated in the table below.

	2009 allocation €	Already committed	To be committed through modification	Revised allocation 2009
Food aid budget line	15,000,000	9,000,000	3,000,000	12,000,000
Humanitarian budget line	10,000,000	8,000,000	5,000,000	13,000,000
Total	25,000,000			25,000,000

In order to allow a reasonable implementation period for actions to be funded, it is furthermore proposed to extend the validity of the funding Decision from 12 to 18 months.

2. - Proposed amendment.

It is proposed that EUR 5,000,000 be used to reinforce the objectives in order to be able to fund additional actions. It is further proposed to extend the validity of the funding Decision from 12 to 18 months. All other aspects of the Decision remain unchanged, though it is proposed to add potential partners as their funding requests are submitted to DG ECHO.