



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)

Brussels, 23.03.2018

MINUTES OF THE 141TH MEETING OF THE HUMANITARIAN AID COMMITTEE 6 DECEMBER 2017

The Commission, as chair of the meeting, was represented by [REDACTED],
[REDACTED], Directorate-General for European Civil
Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

The Chair welcomed the Member States (MS) to the 141th meeting of the Humanitarian
Aid Committee (HAC).

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (POINT FOR APPROVAL)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

2. PRESENTATION OF THE GENERAL GUIDELINES AND OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES ON HUMANITARIAN AID IN 2018 (GGOPHA) (POINT FOR INFORMATION) TOGETHER WITH THE DRAFT COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION ON THE FINANCING OF HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES FROM THE 2018 GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION – ECHO/WWD/BUD/2018/01000 (BUDGET: EUR 842 200 000) (POINT FOR WHICH A FORMAL OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE IS SOUGHT)

2.1. General Context and Outlook

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2.2. Priorities

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

2.3. Allocation methodology

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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2.4. Presentation of Worldwide Intervention Tools and Complementary operations

2.4.1. [REDACTED]

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2.4.2. [REDACTED]

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2.4.3. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

2.4.4. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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2.5. Allocations for 2018 by country/region

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2.5.1. North, West and Central Africa

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2.5.2. *East and Southern Africa, Great Lakes*

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2.5.3. *Middle East*

[REDACTED] (ECHO B/4) provided an overview about the Commission planned humanitarian priorities for the region, including Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Yemen, Palestine and Iraq. Following a specific request from some Member States, he also gave a summary of the follow-up to the decision adopted on 30 March 2016 by the European Commission, to provide Syrian school-aged children with milk for an amount equivalent to EUR 30 million (Commission Implementing Decision Financing Humanitarian Aid Actions in the Distribution

of Dairy Products as part of the response to Humanitarian Crises from the General Budget of the European Union - ECHO/-ME/BUD/2016/01000).

[REDACTED] stressed that this scheme was an atypical food aid operation, not part of the regular humanitarian aid operations. The scheme is a two-year long project due to end in June 2018. Even if there were delays in the implementation of the project, due to administrative problems with the Syrian authorities as well as issues related to the conservation of the milk, the project was now on good track. During the academic year 2016-17, WFP's milk programme in Syria reached 584 500 children with over 4 000 mt of UHT milk of EU origin between December 2016 and May 2017.

Following the initial presentation, the subsequent questions and comments were made:

- **Germany** noted that the data on the number of affected people in Syria was from April 2017.
- **France** [REDACTED]. On Syria, it was noted that there was no direct involvement with the government except in the humanitarian sector; reference was also made on this occasion to the EU strategy for Syria, adopted by the Council of the EU in April 2017.

- [REDACTED]

The Commission's replies can be summarised as follows:

- It may indeed be the case that data referred to in HIPs was not necessarily the most recent as the preparation and approval of HIPs was a process spanning over several months.
- It was confirmed that The Commission's humanitarian aid operations were fully in line with the EU strategy for Syria.

- [REDACTED]

2.5.4. *Eastern Neighbourhood*

[REDACTED]

2.5.5. *Asia, Latin America, Caribbean, Pacific*

[REDACTED]

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3. DRAFT COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2018 WORK PROGRAMME OF THE EU AID VOLUNTEERS INITIATIVE (BUDGET: EUR 19 235 000) (POINT FOR WHICH THE FORMAL OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE IS SOUGHT)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED].

4. PRESENTATION OF DG ECHO'S EVALUATION PROGRAMME 2018 (POINT FOR INFORMATION)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Conclusion

[REDACTED]

Commission (DG ECHO) Participants' List:

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