NOTE TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBER STATES
TO THE HUMANITARIAN AID COMMITTEE

Subject: Draft minutes HAC meeting 140 - 07/12/2016 - Written Procedure

The approval of the Humanitarian Aid Committee is being sought by written procedure on the above-mentioned draft minutes, as proposed during the meeting of the Committee held in Brussels on 07.12.2016.

I would be grateful if you would let me have your agreement or comments within 7 working days from the date of this note.

Observations should be addressed to [redacted], with a copy to ECHO HAC (ECHO-HAC@ec.europa.eu). Any observations received from Member States will be uploaded onto CIRCABC.

In the absence of observations from you within the deadline specified above, the Commission will consider that you have agreed to these draft minutes.

Please note that this communication constitutes the formal transmission of the document from the Commission to your Government.

e-signed

Enclosures: Draft minutes
The meeting was chaired by [Name], Directorate-General for European Civil protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).

The Chair welcomed the Member States (MS) to the 140th meeting of the Humanitarian Aid Committee (HAC) and made a short reference to DG ECHO's reorganisation having taken place on the 1st of July 2016.

1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (POINT FOR APPROVAL)**

2. **PRESENTATION OF DG ECHO'S EVALUATION PROGRAMME 2017 (POINT FOR INFORMATION)**

*Questions*
3. Presentation of the General Guidelines and Operational Priorities on Humanitarian Aid in 2017 (GGOPHA) (Point for information) together with the Draft Commission Implementing Decision on the Financing of Humanitarian Aid Operational Priorities from the 2016 General Budget of the European Union – ECHO/WWD/BUD/2017/01000 (Budget: EUR 810 670 000) (Point for which formal opinion of the Committee is sought)

3.1. Introduction

3.2. General Context and Outlook
3.3. Priorities

3.4. Allocation methodology
3.5. Presentation of Worldwide Intervention Tools and Complementary operations
Questions
3.6. Allocations for 2017 by country/region

Questions

North, West and Central Africa

East and Southern Africa, Great Lakes
Eastern Neighbourhood
Asia, Latin America, Caribbean, Pacific

4. **Draft Commission Implementing Decision concerning the adoption of the 2017 work programme and the financing for the implementation of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative (Budget: EUR 20 972 000) (point for which the formal opinion of the Committee is sought)**
Sweden requested further information on the evaluation of the 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/2015/01000).

(ECHO B/4) gave a brief summary of the follow-up to the decision adopted on 30 March 2016 by the European Commission, to provide Syrian school children with milk for an amount equivalent to EUR 30 million. The milk will be delivered to schools across Syria during the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years, as part of the World Food Programme's existing Fortified School Snacks Programme.

Thanks to EU support, WFP will distribute a total of 17 500 metric tons of milk to schools in support of 580 000 pre-primary and primary school children, and will complement and ongoing WFP school feeding programme in displacement affected areas in Syria.

This scheme is an atypical one-off food aid operation. It comes on top of the substantial funding the EU has been providing since the beginning of the crisis for humanitarian aid inside Syria and neighbouring countries hosting refugees.

The milk was already in Syria; the test-run for administrative clearance, storing, dispatching and distributing milk was currently taking place. The bulk of distributions will take place between December 2016 and March 2017.

The Chair remarked that an evaluation will be performed in the second half of 2017, looking at all the components of the Syria crisis overall, including this specific decision.

Conclusion
DG ECHO Participants List:

DIR D
ECHO A/1
ECHO A/2
ECHO A/3
ECHO B/3
ECHO B/4
ECHO C/1
ECHO C/2
ECHO C/3
ECHO C/4
ECHO D/1
ECHO D/2
ECHO D/3
D/1 Trainee
D/1 Trainee

Electronically signed on 21/03/2017 12:45 (UTC+01) in accordance with article 4.2 (Validity of electronic documents) of Commission Decision 2004/563