



Brussels, 3.12.2008
C(2008) 7597 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 3.12.2008

Approving the special measure for "Support to Georgia's IDPs Action Plan: 2008 – Part I" to be financed under Article 19 08 01 03 of the general budget of the European Communities

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THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006 of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument¹, and in particular Article 12 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the Country Strategy Paper for Georgia² and the Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2007-2010 which indicates as priorities: support for democratic development, rule of law and governance, support for economic development and ENP Action Plan implementation, support for poverty reduction and social reforms and support for peaceful settlement of Georgia's internal conflicts.
- (2) While in line with the orientation of the above-mentioned Country Strategy Paper and Indicative Programme, this measure is an addition to the assistance available to Georgia in the framework of the programming documents, and will be complemented by an additional measure of EUR 51.5 million for "Support to Georgia's IDPs Action Plan: 2008 – Part II.
- (3) The conflict between Georgia and Russia in the summer of 2008 has given rise to a new wave of internally-displaced people (IDPs), and has caused material damage and disruption to the Georgian economy.
- (4) The extraordinary European Council of September 1st 2008 announced EU's willingness to support the reconstruction effort in Georgia.
- (5) To that end the Commission is in the process of identifying a series of support measures under various instruments, the proposed intervention being part of that package.
- (6) The present Decision constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities³ and Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁴.

¹ OJ L 310, 9.11.2006, p.1

² C(2007) 672

³ OJEU L 248 of 16.09.2002 p. 1

⁴ OJEU L 357 of 31.12.2002, p.1

- (7) The present Decision covers any possible interest due for late payment on the basis of articles 83 of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and 106(5) of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002.
- (8) The Commission is required to define the term “substantial change” in the meaning of Article 90 (4) of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 to ensure that any substantial change in this Decision shall follow the same procedure as the initial decision.
- (9) The measures provided for in this decision are in accordance with the opinion of the ENPI Committee set up under Article 26 of Regulation (EC) No 1638/2006,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The action "Support to Georgia's IDPs Action Plan: 2008 – Part I", for which the text is set out in the attached Annex, is approved.

Article 2

The maximum contribution of the Community to the action is set at EUR 10 million to be financed from budget line 19 08 01 03 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2008. In case of insufficient available funds, the budgetary commitment shall be conditional upon the transfer of funds from another budget line.

This decision shall also cover any possible interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Within the global indicative budget of all the specific actions, cumulated changes not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution of the Community, shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the Action.

The authorising officer may introduce non substantial changes to the Action in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done at Brussels, 3.12.2008

For the Commission
Benita FERRERO-WALDNER
Member of the Commission