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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 2.12.2008
COM(2008) 833 final

Proposal for a

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the Mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006¹ allows for the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to allow the financing of clearly identified expenditure which could not be financed within the limits of the ceilings available for one or more headings of the multiannual financial framework.

For budget 2009, additional expenditure, beyond the ceilings of heading 4 is required. It is therefore proposed to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument in accordance with point 27 of the Interinstitutional Agreement.

The amounts to be mobilised are as follows:

- EUR 420 million towards the financing of the facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.

The two arms of the budgetary authority are reminded that the publication of the Decision in the Official Journal of the European Union shall not intervene later than the publication for the 2009 budget.

¹ OJ C 139, 14.06.2006, p. 1

Proposal for a

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the Mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management², and in particular the fifth paragraph of point 27 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission³,

Whereas, at the conciliation meeting on 21 November 2008, the two arms of the budgetary authority agreed to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to complement the financing in the 2009 budget, beyond the ceilings of heading 4, of EUR 420 million towards the financing of the facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

For the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2009 (hereinafter “the 2009 budget”), the flexibility instrument shall be used to provide the sum of EUR 420 million in commitment appropriations.

That amount shall be used to complement the financing of the facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries in heading 4.

Article 2

This decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President

² OJ C 139, 14.06.2006, p. 1.

³ OJ [...]