

E 6165

ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE

TREIZIÈME LÉGISLATURE

SÉNAT

SESSION ORDINAIRE DE 2010-2011

Reçu à la Présidence de l'Assemblée nationale
le 6 avril 2011

Enregistré à la Présidence du Sénat
le 6 avril 2011

TEXTE SOUMIS EN APPLICATION DE L'ARTICLE 88-4 DE LA CONSTITUTION

PAR LE GOUVERNEMENT,

À L'ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE ET AU SÉNAT.

Virements de crédits n° DEC 08/2011 à l'intérieur de la section III -
Commission - du budget général pour l'exercice 2011



**CONSEIL DE
L'UNION EUROPÉENNE**

**Bruxelles, le 4 avril 2011
(OR. en)**

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NOTE DE TRANSMISSION

Origine:	M. Janusz LEWANDOWSKI, Membre de la Commission européenne
Date de réception:	1 ^{er} avril 2011
Destinataire:	M. György MATOLCSY, Président du Conseil de l'Union européenne
Objet:	Virements de crédits n° DEC 08/2011 à l'intérieur de la section III - Commission - du budget général pour l'exercice 2011

Les délégations trouveront ci-joint le document de la Commission - DEC08/2011.

p.j.: DEC08/2011



COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE

BRUXELLES, LE 25/03/2011

BUDGET GÉNÉRAL - EXERCICE 2011
SECTION III - COMMISSION TITRES 23, 40

VIREMENT DE CRÉDITS N° DEC 08/2011

EN EUROS

ORIGINE DES CRÉDITS

DU CHAPITRE - 4002 Réserves pour les interventions financières
ARTICLE - 40 02 42 Réserve d'aide d'urgence

CE - 60 000 000
CP - 30 000 000

DESTINATION DES CRÉDITS

AU CHAPITRE - 2302 Aide humanitaire, y compris l'aide aux
personnes déracinées, l'aide alimentaire et la préparation aux
catastrophes

ARTICLE - 23 02 01 Aide humanitaire

CE 55 000 000
CP 27 500 000

AU CHAPITRE - 2303 Instrument financier pour la protection civile
ARTICLE - 23 03 06 Interventions de protection civile dans les pays
tiers

CE 5 000 000
CP 2 500 000

I. RENFORCEMENT

I.A

a) Intitulé de la ligne

23 02 01 - Aide humanitaire

b) Données chiffrées à la date du 17/03/2011

	CE	CP
1A. Crédits de l'exercice (budget initial + BR)	536 708 000	511 042 085
1B. Crédits de l'exercice (AELE)	0	0
2. Virements	0	0
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3. Crédits définitifs de l'exercice (1A+1B+2)	536 708 000	511 042 085
4. Exécution des crédits définitifs de l'exercice	514 100 000	141 023 551
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5. Crédits inutilisés/disponibles (3-4)	22 608 000	370 018 534
6. Besoins jusqu'à la fin de l'exercice	77 608 000	397 518 534
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7. Renforcement proposé	55 000 000	27 500 000
8. Pourcentage du renforcement par rapport aux crédits de l'exercice (7/1A)	10,25%	5,38%
9. Pourcentage des renforcements cumulés en application de l'article 23 §1 b et c du RF, calculé selon l'article 17bis des modalités d'exécution par rapport aux crédits définitifs de l'exercice	n/a	n/a

c) Recettes provenant de recouvrement reportées (C5)

	CE	CP
1. Crédits disponibles en début d'année	1 041 071	64 689
2. Crédits disponibles à la date du 17/03/2011	408 279	169
3. Taux d'exécution $[(1-2)/1]$	60,78%	99,74%

d) Justification détaillée du renforcement

Au 16 mars 2011, le taux d'exécution global des crédits d'engagement inscrits sur les trois lignes du budget de l'aide humanitaire (chapitre 23 02) était de 91%: ce taux s'établissait à 96 % pour l'aide humanitaire, à 81 % pour l'aide alimentaire et à 100 % pour la préparation aux catastrophes.

Ce taux d'exécution élevé est conforme à la stratégie opérationnelle et à la planification budgétaire de 2011 établies par la direction générale responsable de l'aide humanitaire et de la protection civile (DG ECHO) et présentées à la commission du développement (DEVE) du Parlement européen ainsi qu'à la réunion du groupe de travail «Aide humanitaire et aide alimentaire» (COHAFA) du Conseil en décembre 2010. Sur la base de son évaluation des besoins humanitaires, la DG ECHO détermine, pour les crises de longue durée, une dotation budgétaire préliminaire par pays pour l'année à venir. Conformément aux orientations du Conseil et du Parlement européen, au moins 15 % des crédits inscrits sur la ligne du budget opérationnel initial restent non affectés pour permettre de faire face à l'évolution des priorités et à de nouveaux besoins.

En appliquant cette méthodologie, le montant des crédits du budget initial qui n'ont pas été affectés a été fixé à l'origine à 150 millions d'EUR. Au 16 mars 2011, un montant de 85 millions d'EUR a été utilisé, laissant un solde non exécuté de 65 millions d'EUR disponible pour d'autres interventions en cas de crises nouvelles ou de l'aggravation des crises existantes.

Le montant non affecté a été utilisé pour un certain nombre de catastrophes de faible ampleur ou à l'occasion de l'aggravation de crises, comme le conflit intérieur au Yémen, les inondations au Sri Lanka, le cyclone Giri au Myanmar ou l'ouragan Tomas à Sainte-Lucie.

Il a aussi été utilisé pour deux interventions de grande ampleur:

- 30 millions d'EUR sont consacrés à l'aide humanitaire fournie actuellement dans le cadre de la crise en Lybie afin d'apporter des secours d'urgence aux réfugiés bloqués à la frontière lybienne;

- 25 millions d'EUR servent à financer une aide humanitaire complémentaire destinée à la Côte d'Ivoire à la suite de la recrudescence des combats et de la violence, qui entraîne un nombre de réfugiés et de personnes déplacées plus important que prévu.

L'ampleur de ces catastrophes dépasse les capacités de la réserve opérationnelle de la DG ECHO. Il importe en outre de conserver une capacité d'intervention suffisante pour être en mesure de fournir une aide ultérieure dans les deux crises concernées (Lybie et Côte d'Ivoire) ainsi que dans le cas des multiples catastrophes de moindre ampleur qui peuvent survenir d'ici la fin de l'année 2011. Pour des raisons d'ordre climatique, la plupart des catastrophes naturelles de faible ampleur surviennent généralement au second semestre de l'année, pendant la saison des pluies de mousson, des typhons et des cyclones, qui sont à l'origine de vents violents et d'inondations, notamment en Asie du Sud, en Amérique centrale et dans la région des Caraïbes.

Un renforcement de 55 millions d'EUR est donc demandé pour couvrir les besoins humanitaires liés aux crises en Lybie et en Côte d'Ivoire.

La demande de crédits de paiement s'établit à 27,5 millions d'EUR. La DG ECHO procède, au début des opérations humanitaires, au versement de préfinancements en faveur de ses partenaires, couvrant de 50 à 80 % du montant, le solde étant versé une fois l'opération terminée. La demande de crédits de paiement correspond donc à 50 % du montant demandé en crédits d'engagement pour que les paiements de préfinancement soient déjà possibles; en revanche, pour les paiements complémentaires, les crédits seront demandés plus tard en cours d'exercice, si possible au moyen d'un redéploiement.

Pour une description détaillée du contexte et de l'utilisation prévue des fonds dans le cadre de la crise lybienne et du conflit en Côte d'Ivoire, il convient de se reporter aux annexes 1 et 2.

I.B

a) Intitulé de la ligne

23 03 06 - Interventions de protection civile dans les pays tiers

b) Données chiffrées à la date du 17/03/2011

	CE	CP
1A. Crédits de l'exercice (budget initial + BR)	9 000 000	3 808 716
1B. Crédits de l'exercice (AELE)	214 200	90 647
2. Virements	0	0
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3. Crédits définitifs de l'exercice (1A+1B+2)	9 214 200	3 899 363
4. Exécution des crédits définitifs de l'exercice	950 000	39 736
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5. Crédits inutilisés/disponibles (3-4)	8 264 200	3 859 627
6. Besoins jusqu'à la fin de l'exercice	13 264 200	6 359 627
7. Renforcement proposé	5 000 000	2 500 000
8. Pourcentage du renforcement par rapport aux crédits de l'exercice (7/1A)	55,56%	65,64%
9. Pourcentage des renforcements cumulés en application de l'article 23 §1 b et c du RF, calculé selon l'article 17bis des modalités d'exécution par rapport aux crédits définitifs de l'exercice	n/a	n/a

c) Recettes provenant de recouvrement reportées (C5)

	CE	CP
1. Crédits disponibles en début d'année	1 856 545	1 563 179
2. Crédits disponibles à la date du 17/03/2011	1 356 545	840 876
3. Taux d'exécution $[(1-2)/1]$	26,93%	46,21%

d) Justification détaillée du renforcement

Au moyen du mécanisme de protection civile, la Commission coordonne, soutient et complète l'action des États membres en cas de catastrophes naturelles ou de catastrophes dues à l'homme, d'actes de terrorisme et d'accidents technologiques, radiologiques ou environnementaux. Dans le cadre des activités de soutien, la Commission finance les frais de transport encourus pour amener les équipements et les équipes d'intervention des États participants sur les territoires affectés et pour évacuer les ressortissants de pays tiers.

En ce qui concerne la crise en Lybie, les États membres participant au mécanisme européen de protection civile ont proposé de mettre à disposition des moyens de transport (avions et navires) et/ou de fournir une aide en nature. Sept d'entre eux ont demandé un cofinancement de l'UE par le biais du mécanisme européen de protection civile pour le rapatriement de ressortissants de pays tiers, pour un montant de 6,4 millions d'EUR.

Cela signifie que 71 % du budget ont désormais été affectés. Entretemps, le Japon a sollicité une aide du mécanisme de protection civile et des opérations de transport sont en cours de préparation, qui pourront nécessiter un financement supplémentaire substantiel.

Afin de conserver une capacité d'intervention suffisante pour le reste de l'exercice, un renforcement de 5 millions d'EUR en crédits d'engagement est demandé. La demande de crédits de paiement correspond à 50 % du montant demandé en crédits d'engagement, soit 2,5 millions d'EUR, pour que les paiements de préfinancement soient déjà possibles; en revanche, pour les paiements complémentaires, les crédits seront demandés plus tard en cours d'exercice, si possible au moyen d'un redéploiement.

Pour une description détaillée de l'utilisation prévue des fonds dans le cadre de la crise lybienne, il convient de se reporter à l'annexe 1.

II. PRÉLÈVEMENT

a) Intitulé de la ligne

40 02 42 - Réserve d'aide d'urgence

b) Données chiffrées à la date du 17/03/2011

	CE	CP
1A. Crédits de l'exercice (budget initial + BR)	253 860 000	100 000 000
1B. Crédits de l'exercice (AELE)	0	0
2. Virements	0	0
3. Crédits définitifs de l'exercice (1A+1B+2)	253 860 000	100 000 000
4. Exécution des crédits définitifs de l'exercice	0	0
5. Crédits inutilisés/disponibles (3-4)	253 860 000	100 000 000
6. Besoins jusqu'à la fin de l'exercice	193 860 000	70 000 000
7. Prélèvement proposé	60 000 000	30 000 000
8. Pourcentage du prélèvement par rapport aux crédits de l'exercice (7/1A)	23,64%	30,00%
9. Pourcentage des prélèvements cumulés en application de l'article 23 § 1 b et c du RF, calculé selon l'article 17 bis des modalités d'exécution par rapport aux crédits définitifs de l'exercice	n/a	n/a

c) Recettes provenant de recouvrement reportées (C5)

	CE	CP
1. Crédits disponibles en début d'année	0	0
2. Crédits disponibles à la date du 17/03/2011	0	0
3. Taux d'exécution $[(1-2)/1]$	n/a	n/a

d) Justification détaillée du prélèvement

La réserve d'aide d'urgence est destinée à permettre de répondre rapidement à des besoins spécifiques d'aide à des pays tiers, à la suite d'événements qui n'étaient pas prévisibles lors de l'établissement du budget. Cette réserve sert en priorité pour des actions à caractère humanitaire, mais aussi, le cas échéant, pour la gestion civile d'une crise et la protection civile (point 25 de l'accord interinstitutionnel signé le 17 mai 2006).

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

ADDITIONAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTED FOR

**THE BUDGET LINE 23 02 01 HUMANITARIAN AID IN ORDER TO COVER INCREASED HUMANITARIAN NEEDS FOR THE
CRISIS IN LIBYA AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES – SITUATION AT 16/03/2011**

This explanatory memorandum provides the context of the humanitarian situation in Libya and the justification for the urgent need to allow DG ECHO to cope with the situation.

1. Country Context

Since the beginning of 2011, North African and Middle Eastern countries have experienced a wave of instability due to popular uprisings against the governments in place.

The situation deteriorated particularly in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya. While the situation in Tunisia and Egypt stabilised relatively quickly, in Libya, protests against Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's rule which started in Benghazi, Libya's second largest city, on 16 February have left an unknown number of people dead and several thousands injured. Fighting between troops loyal to Colonel Gaddafi and rebel troops has been intensifying. On 22 February, after Colonel Gaddafi's speech asking for the population's support against demonstrators, people started leaving the country by road via the borders with Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Niger.

2. The crisis

Inside Libya, the Gaddafi regime's armed forces are fighting to regain control of the east of the country. Those humanitarian organisations that are present have evacuated all non-essential staff and are beginning to evacuate even some essential personnel from Benghazi to Tobrouk. Few Libyan population movements have been reported. The exodus of migrant workers in particular towards Egypt and Tunisia, continues. Humanitarian access to the pro-Gaddafi areas (west and centre) is not only denied by Gaddafi's regime, but is also very difficult due to the fighting. Casualties are reported as being high, but no reliable figures are available.

The total number of people who have fled Libya since the outbreak of violence stands at 266 935 persons. **On the Tunisian border**, local communities are starting to grow uneasy with the continued presence of camps. Communities are worried that temporary camps will become permanent with negative repercussions for tourism, their main source of income. Furthermore, people in Ben Gardane rely on trade with Libyan border towns. The increased security checks have had a negative effect on cross-border trade. According to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) as of 15 March, the number of people in the camps has decreased to 16 680, compared to 17 049 people on 14 March. Numbers change daily due to new arrivals and departures. Among the camp population, Bangladeshis are still by far the largest group (8 445) followed by Ghanaians (3 246) and Mali (2 907).

On the Egyptian border, currently an estimated 2 000 people are at the border. Many of the migrants who crossed the Libyan-Egyptian border are forced to stay in an open field in difficult conditions. There is still no official contingency planning available for a possible influx of Libyan refugees but discussions have started between the authorities and humanitarian actors.

On the Algerian border, the influx is still limited. Local authorities are able to cope with the situation.

More people are continuing to leave Libya than can be expatriated. This situation is likely to last for a while, unless sufficient transport means can be financed via the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

3. Priority Needs

In its initial reaction to the crisis, the Commission mobilised EUR 3 million under an emergency decision adopted on 25 February (ECHO/NF/BUD/2011/01000). This initial amount was increased to EUR 30 million on 3 March 2011 as the humanitarian situation worsened and needs increased.

As the situation stands, the humanitarian needs in Libya and neighbouring countries are identified as follows:

Libya:

Humanitarian assistance provided inside Libya reaches only the eastern part under the control of the transitional authorities. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been active with donations of medical material, including war-wounded kits, training of Libyan doctors on war-wounded case management, as well as direct assistance with two surgical teams in Benghazi and Azdabiye hospitals. They have also provided food and non food items (NFI) to the transit camp for African migrants managed by the Libyan RC. In the absence of the UNHCR in eastern Libya, they have been following protection issues and liaising with the UNHCR team in Egypt. ICRC has also prepositioned stocks of medical kits, food and NFIs in case access becomes possible to the western parts of Libya, or a rapid deterioration of the conflict.

There are currently 7 international Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) in Libya known to DG ECHO. Most have donated medical material, food and NFIs, and are currently conducting needs assessments.

Egyptian side:

Since 12 March 2011, UNHCR is present at the crossing point. UNHCR is in the process of setting up an operations centre in Saloum city near the border. At present, the bulk of the transport arrangements for migrants are covered by the IOM, which provides also humanitarian assistance, including food, water, blankets and hygiene kits, to the migrants who remain stranded in Saloum.

UNICEF is providing most of the support for the provision of water and sanitation including the follow-up and protection of women and children, the most vulnerable group of migrants. UNHCR, IOM, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and local NGO's and charities are covering needs for food and drinking water.

ICRC is providing support for those arriving at the Egyptian border, issuing ICRC travel documents for nationals without diplomatic representation in Egypt. They are also facilitating contacts with embassies.

Médecins du Monde (MdM), IOM and the World Health Organisation (WHO) are assisting in the delivery of health care through Ministry of Health clinics.

Tunisian side:

Health: blanket vaccination for measles targeting 150 children. An increase of consultations was observed with 30% of the cases having respiratory problems and 10% diarrhoea.

Food: The World Food Programme (WFP) stepped up its operations to increase the number of meals distributed to meet the demands of the people in the camps. WFP reported that 55 000 hot meals were served on 14 March.

WASH: ICRC and The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are planning to start water trucking in order so that the distribution of bottled water can to be discontinued. This will reduce the number of empty bottles scattered throughout the camp and subsequently reduce the burden on waste management in the camp.

UNICEF has taken measures to improve the sanitation condition in the camps. They announced the planned installation of 80 chemical latrines. Coverage by pit latrine and flush toilet has reached approx 58% (based on a ratio of one latrine for 50 persons). Some are unusable as filled with plastic bottles.

The Wash Cluster identified two wells of brackish water to be tested for their suitability for washing with soap.

Islamic Relief, Caritas, Action contre la faim (ACF) and Red Crescent and Red Cross movement met with the Ben Gardane authorities. They agreed on a sharing of responsibilities in the solid waste management chain from the camp to disposal and downstream recycling.

Algerian side:

An IOM mission arrived in Algiers on the 14 March. They were given support by the DG ECHO office in Algiers. Ministry of Foreign Affairs authorisation to operate in In-Amenas, Illizi and Djanet is expected by the 18 March. UNHCR also plans to visit transit camps in Algeria on 22 March 2011.

4. Overview of existing and planned EU assistance for the Libyan crisis

A total of EUR 30 million has already been allocated by the European Commission to DG ECHO partners present in the region allowing them to start intervening at field level.

A further EUR 36.7 million have been committed by Member States, including in-kind contributions.

Donor	Commitments in 14points		
	Cash	In-Kind	Total
	A	B	C-A+B
Austria	500.000 €	150.000 €	650.000 €
Belgium	1.000.000 €		1.000.000 €
Denmark	4.393.956 €		4.393.956 €
ECHO/EU Budget	30.000.000 €		30.000.000 €
Estonia	50.000 €		50.000 €
Finland	1.350.000 €		1.350.000 €
France	2.612.584 €		2.612.584 €
Germany	3.215.757 €	1.120.000 €	4.335.757 €
Hungary	50.800 €		50.800 €
Ireland	250.000 €		250.000 €
Italy	1.016.635 €	2.047.975 €	3.064.610 €
Luxembourg	1.027.700 €		1.027.700 €
Malta	270.000 €		270.000 €
Netherlands	1.500.000 €		1.500.000 €
Poland	75.000 €		75.000 €
Slovenia	50.000 €		50.000 €
Spain	1.162.539 €	1.725.000 €	2.887.539 €
Sweden	5.152.880 €		5.152.880 €
United Kingdom	7.963.267 €		7.963.267 €
TOTAL EU	61.641.118 €	5.042.975 €	66.684.093 €

As the outflow of people from Libya continues and as Colonel Gaddafi's forces move eastwards, substantial additional humanitarian needs should be expected.

5. International Civil Protection Response

The EU Civil Protection emphasised the need for more flights to support the evacuation efforts for third country nationals (TCNs) from Ras Ajdir and Shoucha camp at the Tunisian border with Libya.

At the date of 16 March, 14 states participating in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (AT, BE, BG, DE, ES, FI, FR, EL, IE, IT, MT, NO, SE, UK) have offered transport (planes and vessels) and/or in-kind assistance. seven of them requested EU co-financing through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism for the repatriation of non - EU Third Country Nationals (amount: EUR 6 407 762).

In view of the possible evolution of the emergency and the continuous influx of migrants from Libya, the Commission decided to maintain a presence in Tunisia beyond the initially envisaged end date of the mission (12 March).

Currently, the Civil Protection team monitors the number of incoming and outgoing migrants at the border and the airport and provide this information to IOM and UNHCR, to maintain coordination presence at On-

Site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) and to finalise the contingency plan in collaboration with the Tunisian civil protection authorities.

6. Use of the requested reinforcement from the Emergency Aid Reserve

The Commission has already provided emergency assistance and intends to strengthen its response to meet the most urgent needs in the following aid sectors:

- the provision of assistance to the people fleeing Libya (TU, EGY) - cf. in transit camps, to support water/sanitation, medical, and shelter infrastructure put in place by DG ECHO implementing partners
- support for repatriation of Third Country Nationals (TCN) to their country of origin channelled through the IOM & UNHCR joint operation. Initially, people fleeing were mostly Tunisian and Egyptian migrant workers; now they are mostly Bangladeshi (between 12 000 and 14 000 still in transit camps) in need of repatriation. The Bangladesh authorities have formally asked the Commission to seek EU support for the repatriation of their nationals.
- the provision of assistance to people with refugee status who cannot go back to their home country, notably Libyans fleeing Libya and the specific case of Somali /Eritreans who cannot go back to their home country - refugee/resettlement issue (UNHCR) and of other Sub-Saharan Africans.
- the financing and prepositioning of emergency stocks to provide relief aid in Libya – access so far denied to humanitarian organisations (incl. ICRC); but the humanitarian community has to be ready to deploy a massive operation as soon as it has access in Gaddafi controlled territory.

Needs Assessment:

DG ECHO has deployed **11 humanitarian experts** consisting of 4 teams: 3 teams to Tunisian and Egyptian borders, one of which has been in Eastern Libya since 3-14 March 2011; a fourth DG ECHO team at Algerian-Libyan border since 4 March.

Also, since 2 March, 1 additional DG ECHO expert has been mobilised for United Nations Disaster Assessment & Coordination (UNDAC) team awaiting access to Libya.

The experts are both assessing the needs and prioritising the Commission response. They are contributing to the coordination system with UN and other donors.

The main **potential recipients** of this additional funding will be: European NGOs signatory to the Framework Partnership Agreement with DG ECHO; societies of the Red Cross movement and international Red Cross agencies; and United Nations agencies signatory to the Financial Administrative Framework Agreement, which specialised in humanitarian aid (e.g. the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees).

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**ADDITIONAL COMMITMENT APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTED FOR****THE BUDGET LINE 23 02 01 HUMANITARIAN AID IN ORDER TO COVER INCREASED HUMANITARIAN NEEDS FOR
IVORY COAST, ITS NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES AND OTHER WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES CONCERNED –
SITUATION AT 16/03/2011**

This explanatory memorandum provides the actual context of the humanitarian situation in Ivory Coast, its neighbouring countries and other West African countries concerned, and the justification for the urgent need to provide additional funding.

1. Country Context

The humanitarian consequences of the political crisis in Ivory Coast are growing as the situation remains deadlocked with the failure of diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis and a sharp increase in violence.

This post-election crisis has renewed the divisions in Ivory Coast between the pro-Ouattara northern and the generally pro-Gbagbo southern parts of the country and threatens to plunge the country back into civil war and inter-community violence. Since 24 February 2011, there has been an increase in the number of armed clashes in Abidjan and renewed fighting has started in the Western region especially in Zouan-Hounien, Bin-Houyé and Toulepleu between the pro-Gbagbo Forces de Défense et de Sécurité (FDS) and the pro-Ouattara Forces Armées des Forces Nouvelles (FAFN). Violence and tension has also been reported in Yamoussoukro, Daloa and Grand Bassam. These trends have led to an increasing number of Ivoirians fleeing as refugees to Liberia and to population displacement inside Ivory Coast.

The exact number of refugees and internally displaced people is now around 320 000 people (confirmed). However, recent reports indicate that altogether up to 420 000 people might have been displaced (to be confirmed). The breakdown is as follows (source: UN reports):

- 200 000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Abidjan (last OCHA¹ Situation Report (SITREP) dated 11 March 2011 gives however the figure of 300,000 people that "could" be displaced in Abidjan – to be confirmed),
- 45 000 IDPs in the West of Ivory Coast (source: OCHA, 11 March 2011),
- 77 000 refugees in Liberia (source: UNHCR², 10 March 2011),
- hundreds of refugees in neighbouring countries and other West African countries concerned (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Togo).

The presence of a large expatriate, especially West African, community in the country is also a very serious concern in case of a complete breakdown in law and order and various violent incidents targeting foreigners have started to be reported.

The overall socio-economic situation is also fast deteriorating with increasing concerns with regards to shortages in fuel and cooking gas, generalized electricity cuts for political reasons and water shortages in various areas. Banks are not functioning, with increasingly limited access to cash. Transport operations are also disrupted by insecurity.

The UN has been blocked by Gbagbo supporters from investigating reports of massive human rights violations, especially in the Abidjan area. A number of people were killed during the latest events of last week in Abidjan. The official death-toll is given as 392 (United Nations Operation in Ivory Coast – UNOCI) but most observers believe it to be much higher. There are reports of Liberian mercenaries being used by Gbagbo supporters to attack Ouattara supporters. Former President Gbagbo has called for the withdrawal of UNOCI³ and the French troops supporting them. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights released a report on 15 February on the human rights situation in Ivory Coast, documenting numerous violations

1 OCHA = United Nations Organisation for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Aid

2 UNHCR = United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

3 UNCOI = United Nations Operations in Côte D'Ivoire

(extrajudicial killings, abductions, enforced disappearances, excessive use of force, destruction of property by armed forces, incitement to violence by state television). Violent incidents towards UNOCI have continued, including burning of UN cars, shooting at UNOCI personnel and attacks on vehicles by youth patriots, following the call made by Gbagbo Youth Minister Charles Blé Goudé to block ONUCI movements. OCHA and UNDP⁴ vehicles have also been attacked in Abidjan.

2. The scope of the humanitarian crisis and evolving situation

The situation is deteriorating rapidly. From the beginning of December till 24 February, 39 784 refugees have arrived in Liberia, Nimba County. Since 24 February, due to the recent fighting in the west of Côte d'Ivoire (CIV), an additional case load of 35 659 has arrived. This number is still increasing as the combats continues, with also a lot of refugees arriving in Grand Gedeh County. Humanitarian agencies already present in the country mobilised quickly to respond to their needs. However the region where the refugees are is isolation with poor infrastructure which is hindering assessments and assistance.

The breakdown of the number of refugees in the other countries of the region was on 10 March as follows⁵: Guinea: 916, Togo: 353, Ghana: 214, Mali: 143, Nigeria: 58, Niger: 31, Guinea Bissau: 30, Benin: 26, Burkina Faso: 22 and Senegal: 15. Returnees⁶: Guinea: 2 009; Mali: 4 754; Ghana: 6 160. Third Country Nationals: Mali: 1 434; Ghana: 1 215.

Humanitarian access to the victims of violence continues to be severely hindered. Access to affected districts of Abidjan has been restricted, even for the Red Cross Movement, and provision of aid to those in need remains very difficult. The same situation is being reported in areas affected by conflict in the West. There is a vital need to establish a humanitarian space to protect civilians and ensure access for humanitarian aid.

UN humanitarian agencies and NGOs have been obliged to limit their presence and activities in the country at the start of the crisis including the evacuation of non-essential personnel. Abidjan is at Security Phase IV classification for UN agencies. Since February 2011, capacity was however slowly increased and has permitted a response to immediate needs in the West following intercommunity violence and displacement of population in Man, Danané and Duékoué. The recent events have however created additional needs that require a strengthened emergency response capacity.

3. Priority Needs

IVORY COAST

The situation is a fast evolving one and humanitarian aid needs assessments need to be continually updated. This is made very difficult by the high level of insecurity which continues to be a serious obstacle to the movement of humanitarian workers. Implementation capacity has started to increase. Since 24 February, new fighting in the West has led to new displacement of population. A large number of civilians have also fled violence in some parts of Abidjan.

Assessments: Initial assessments have been completed in February in the West and the Centre. Additional assessments are needed due to the recent deterioration of the situation. Insecurity is limiting access to affected populations as can be noted from the fact that on 26 February, the UN Designated Official instructed all UN staff to refrain from travel throughout the country, particularly in the West. DG ECHO continues to work with partners to verify data and help prepare the Commission's humanitarian response to the crisis. This has included participation in field needs assessments such as the visit to Man and Duékoué on 21 January to assess the situation there.

Protection: UNOCI has reported that 392 people have been killed since the beginning of the crisis. But most observers believe the real figure to be much higher. There are numerous reports of disappearances, extrajudicial arrests, rape and other sexual violence cases, forced displacements, restrictions in movement and mass graves. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been given access to places of detention and have been able to transmit Red Cross messages to relatives.

4 UNDP = United Nations Development Program

5 Source : UNHCR Ivory Coast situation update 04/03/11.

6 Source: IOM update 07/03/11.

Food Assistance: The current situation is having a negative impact on late harvesting in the western region and commercial food traffic between North and South has been reduced. OCPV (Office d'Aide à la Commercialisation des Produits Vivriers) reports that maize price in Abidjan is 38% higher than the 2006-10 average. The World Food Programme (WFP) continues to report price increases in all major markets (between 25 and 40% for sugar, oil, meat and powder milk, 35% for gas). The impact of these sharp increases in food prices on the food security and nutritional status of the most vulnerable population is a matter of increasing concern particularly for the northern and western regions of Ivory Coast, which were already facing moderate food insecurity before the crisis. Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) has evaluated that production of food and export crops is likely to be below average due to low labour availability. Lack of cash availability is also a factor in limiting families' capacity to ensure food security. Some reports indicate that IDPs in Duékoué and Guiglo areas have started selling NFIs received, in order to have access to cash.

WFP⁷ has prepared an Emergency Operation (EMOP) covering emergency food distributions for 125 000 people for 6 months for a budget of USD 16 million.

Shelter: 42 000 people have been registered by IOM and UNHCR as displaced in the West, 25% of them staying in camps where aid had started to be delivered. Adequate space is however an issue and negotiations are ongoing between UNHCR, IOM and local authorities to identify additional sites. Secondary displacement for people who had fled initially in December/January has been reported. Due to insecurity, UNHCR has suspended the organization of new sites until access becomes more secure but some emergency shelter (such as plastic sheeting) can still be provided following displacements in the West and in Abidjan.

Camp Coordination/Camp Management: Needs should furthermore be reviewed due to the recent deterioration of the situation that is leading to new displacements of population in the West and in Abidjan and for which a more coordinated and organised response is needed. This capacity should also cover IDPs in host families, which remain the vast majority of displaced population. Strengthened capacity would also permit to assess better nature of sites hosting displaced people and to ensure consistent follow up of population movements and needs.

Health: Immediate medical needs of displaced people and victims of violence in Abidjan are mostly for the treatment of injuries and abuse. A cholera outbreak in various districts of Abidjan was reported by the Ministry of Health on 21 January, with 12 deaths so far. A Yellow Fever outbreak has also been declared in the north of the country by the Ministry of Health on 3 January, with 25 deaths as of 17 January. Since 15 January, a measles outbreak has also been reported in the district of Adiaké (1 death up to 5 February).

There are reports of a shortage of drugs and reduced capacity of the health system in the west, central and northern regions due to disruptions in supply from the central pharmacy in Abidjan, transport problems, departure of staff and electricity cuts. Medical structures in some neighbourhoods of Abidjan are also disrupted.

Nutrition: UNICEF and ACF⁸ are conducting nutritional rapid assessments in the West. 30 severely acute malnourished children have been identified. Further deterioration of the nutritional status is expected with the hunger season approaching and increased violence.

Water and sanitation: A limited number of water points and latrines have been set up so far. Overall instability, such as in Abidjan, as well as increased electricity cuts, are leading to frequent water cuts and limited access to safe water for an estimated total population of 1.8 million people. Sanitary conditions are also deteriorating (building up of garbage not being collected) and inadequate hygiene practices are increasing, creating further concerns for overall public health of the population.

LIBERIA:

The 75 443 refugees that have already been registered in Liberia are spread along over 70 villages in the north-eastern Nimba region of Liberia and Grand Gedeh County. This is a remote and very under-developed region with very poor infrastructure. Aid workers have had major problems in accessing the area to carry out needs assessments and to deliver humanitarian aid. Primary needs identified so far include:

⁷ WFP = World Food Programme

⁸ Action Contre la Faim

Food: The refugees are in an isolated region that was chronically food insecure before the crisis. The local population depended on food imports from Ivory Coast. A prolonged crisis forces traders to purchase rice and other food items from other areas such as Monrovia. This will lead to substantially higher costs and possible breaks in the supply chain. The price of local rice in Nimba increased by 50 % in December (Source : WFP).

The influx of refugees has also resulted in a drop in daily wages in the host areas which has further increased food insecurity. Within the refugee population 20 % of the children could be at risk of severe malnutrition.

General Food Distribution will be needed for the 75 000 refugees already present in the country and the additional case-load still expected to come (potentially up to 250 000).

The host villages where the refugees are at present have problems of their own with their food stocks and have depleted their stocks of seed for the coming planting season in April.

Water & Sanitation: Most villages in the border area already do not have adequate access to clean water or sanitation. The rapid increase in the number of refugees in the border area of Butuo has caused a major problem for the supply of water to refugees and local population. Water/sanitation facilities have to be installed in the different camps that have been planned. Water trucking has to be organised and a lot of wells have little yield in the dry season.

Shelter & Non Food Items (NFI): The initial position of the Liberian government was to try and avoid the creation of refugee camps and ask the local communities to host the refugees. However the growing number of refugees has now made this impossible and there is agreement on the need for sites that could host refugee communities.

Health: Local population access to health care in the Nimba region was already insufficient before the crisis. Now with the extra caseload of refugees, a massive urgent increase in the capacity of local health structures is needed. Vaccination campaigns have started but extra vaccines will have to be purchased as a function of the number of refugees.

Logistics: An assessment of road conditions and urgent works has been done and urgent repairs (bridges) have started.

Protection: Some reports indicate that local armed groups are trying to prevent Ivoirians from crossing over to Liberia. There are also reports that they are entering host villages in Liberia to recruit combatants. Protection issues will remain a high concern as long as refugees are hosted along the border.

OTHER NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES:

In **Guinea**, an inter-agency assessment was conducted from 2 to 4 February in Guinée Forestière, where most refugees are arriving. An existing camp (Kouankan II) has been identified to host up to 10 000 refugees. Humanitarian partners' capacity is reduced and will not be sufficient in case of massive influx. Strategy to respond to returnees' needs is to be defined. Up to 2 000 Guineans have returned to their country.

In **Ghana**, a joint technical mission to the Brong Ahafo region has been conducted in February in order to assess border monitoring and site identification needs. A further assessment has been carried out beginning of March to assess new arrivals. IOM reports that 6 160 returnees and 1 200 Third Country Nationals have arrived in Ghana so far.

In other countries concerned, assessments are on-going.

4. Overview of existing and planned EU assistance for Ivory Coast, neighbouring countries and other West African countries concerned

DG ECHO was the first donor to respond to the crisis with a first allocation of funds of EUR 5 million on 22 December 2010. This was allocated to fund humanitarian activities in Ivory Coast (EUR 2.3 million) and Liberia (EUR 2.7 million).

A further EUR 5.2 million have been committed by Member States, including in-kind contributions. The CERF has given USD 2 255 million, the US has pledged USD 12.7 million and Switzerland has given CHF 2.1 million.

These grants and pledges are well below the financial needs that have been identified. In particular, the UN has launched an Emergency Humanitarian Action Plan (EHAP) for Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mali, Burkina Faso and Guinea for USD 32.7 million and another EHAP for Liberia of USD 55 million. The EHAP are currently being revised in order to reflect updated needs, a subsequent increase of the budget is expected.

5. Use of the requested reinforcement

The Commission has already provided emergency assistance and intends to use the additional funding to address the following aid sectors:

The recent massive deterioration in the security situation in Ivory Coast with in particular a surge in violent clashes in Abidjan since 24 February 2011 and an extension of the armed conflict to the west of the country has created additional needs and a sudden degradation in the humanitarian situation.

Faced with these new population displacements, the need for temporary shelter and basic necessities have risen rapidly and emergency assistance for those families and those who receive them must be quickly put in place on a larger scale. The current security environment is extremely tense and increasingly violent. There are fears about a further deterioration in the situation. The fast evolving context also makes it necessary to strengthen the capacity of humanitarian organizations to monitor population movements, assess their needs and develop context-specific mobile emergency response.

The context is characterised, moreover, by a deterioration in economic and health conditions, which is having a direct impact on the lives of civilians. A cholera epidemic broke out in January 2011 in Abidjan, with 509 cases reported and 12 deaths, while the rainy season is approaching. An outbreak of measles is also underway in the health district of Adiaké (47 cases reported). The risk that these epidemics will spread is high due to the deteriorating situation, the approach of the rainy season and the increased vulnerability of populations in cases of displacement and conflict. On the socio-economic side, prices of fresh products continue to rise in the capital. Supply shortages are reported for gas and oil while access to basic services like health is affected by lack of supply difficulties and the departure of qualified personnel in certain regions. Power cuts are becoming more frequent.

In so far as food security is concerned, food supply faces many difficulties. The flow of products between North and South declined significantly, prices have increased dramatically since November 2010 and livelihoods are affected by the economic and financial downturn leading to reduced purchasing power of households. Moreover, in some cases (due to armed clashes in particular), crops and food stocks have been lost and the availability of seeds has been reduced. The lean period will be earlier and longer than in previous years and the 2011 agricultural season is already under threat. The food security of the most vulnerable households has begun to deteriorate with very few nutrition and food security programmes are in place so far.

The increased insecurity has led to a complex context in which humanitarian organisations have to operate and for which strong logistics and flexible approaches are necessary. Specific support in the logistics sector is increasingly needed, especially for mobile responses that permit to access populations despite insecurity.

In neighbouring countries the recent fighting in the west of Ivory Coast is leading to the arrival of a new wave of refugees at a rate of up to several thousand per day. Regions that had been untouched up to now such as Grand Gedeh have started to receive refugees. The humanitarian response is being put into place slowly and only 500 people have been relocated to a reception camp so far. The arrival of refugees in other neighbouring countries, however more limited, is steadily increasing and this could change rapidly in the case of more widespread clashes in Ivory Coast. Additional countries for example Togo, Niger and Nigeria have begun to receive refugees need now to put in place an emergency response.

The emergency decision for EUR 5 000 000 adopted in 22 December 2010 and which had been designed to meet a number of 100 000 displaced persons is no longer adequate to meet the needs taking into consideration the contributions of other donors and the available budget.