



# european community

# NEWS

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## EC GIVES \$70 MILLION TO YUGOSLAV WAR VICTIMS

The EC Commission yesterday agreed to 60 million ECU\* in humanitarian aid for victims of the conflict in former Yugoslavia.

This amount represents the first allocation of Community assistance to ex-Yugoslavia in 1993, enabling the implementation of a target plan that has been drawn up on the basis of outstanding eligible aid requests (see annex).

### 1993 Aid Estimates

According to estimates by ECHO (the European Community Humanitarian Office) and the European Task Force in former Yugoslavia, some 650 million ECU in aid will be required in the first six months of 1993 to meet widespread needs, ranging from basic foodstuffs to financing refugee facilities. Around 50 percent of this requirement is already in the pipeline, leaving some 325 million ECU in assistance to be financed in the first half of 1993.

In light of the United Nations evaluation mission currently in progress (with EC participation), this estimate may change. In the meantime, however, the necessity of maintaining the aid flow to those in need makes the Commission's decision to go ahead with the 60 million ECU allocation all the more important. This aid will, in most cases, cover the needs of the proposed relief organizations for 1 1/2 months.

### Aid to Date

Since the beginning of the Yugoslav conflict, the European Community, as such, has contributed aid totalling 290 million ECU (13 million ECU in 1991 and 277 million ECU in 1992), which has financed 198 emergency operations involving 32 different aid partners in all the republics of ex-Yugoslavia. The UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees), the lead agency and coordinator of aid in ex-Yugoslavia, has been the Commission's principal recipient, having received about 120 million ECU in financing.

At the same time, the EC member states and the other countries of the G-24 have financed bilateral aid programs which, taken together, are comparable to the Commission's contributions. Moreover, some have received a large number of refugees, and others have contributed significantly to the UNPROFOR operation to protect aid convoys.

\* 1 ECU = \$1.19 on March 4, 1993

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**ANNEX**

**Proposed Organizations for Distribution of Aid**

	Proposed Financing (Million ECU)
<b>World Food Program</b> Provision and distribution of basic foodstuffs to all Republics (except Croatia as regards products supplied directly by ECHO)	8.00
<b>UNHCR</b> Provision and distribution of supplementary foodstuffs, of hygiene products and other basic necessities (blankets) mattresses, cooking equipment, distribution of aid given in turnkey operations, costs of staff on the ground, etc.) to all Republics	10.00
<b>UNICEF</b> Provision and distribution of baby food to all Republics	3.00
<b>ECHO/Zagreb</b> Provision and distribution of basic foodstuffs provided via NGOs, commercial partners, etc. to Croatia	7.50
<b>ECHO/Belgrade</b> Provision and distribution of family parcels provided via NGOs and commercial partners, etc. to Serbia and Montenegro	6.00
<b>Croat Government</b> Continuation of program of accommodation costs incurred by the Croat government in Croatia	7.50
<b>Other Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)</b>	4.45
<b>RESERVE</b>	13.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	60.00