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Brussels, 23 June 1988.

AID TO REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN, THAILAND AND KAMPUCHEA

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The Commission has decided to provide a sum of 4 540 000 ECU to finance six self-reliance and rehabilitation projects to assist refugees in Pakistan and Thailand and returnees in Kampuchea.

This year, the European Parliament has stepped up the Community's aid in the form of refugee projects from 10 million ECU to 17 million ECU in view of the ever-increasing needs in various regions of the world.

The Commission has approved the following projects :

**PAKISTAN Education and vocational training for Afghan
refugees : 3 000 000 ECU**

The project is to provide education for 114 000 Afghan refugee children enrolled in primary, middle and secondary schools in the North West Frontier Province (100 000), Baluchistan (10 000) and Punjab (2 000) and technical training for 3 000 young Afghan refugees in mechanics, auto-mechanics, carpentry, tailoring, machinery, electricity and welding, providing them with income or employment opportunities.

**PAKISTAN Medical assistance for Afghan refugees in the
Chitral Valley : 230 000 ECU**

The programme is to be implemented by Médecins sans Frontières (French NGO) and aims to improve preventive and curative health care for about 50 000 Afghan refugees in seven camps in the Chitral Valley, including a programme of immunization against tuberculosis and malaria as well as mother-and-child health care, training of Afghan staff and setting up of medical facilities.

**PAKISTAN Community health and sanitation programme in the
Punjab province : 230 000 ECU**

The aim of this project, which is to be implemented by the Belgian branch of Médecins sans Frontières, is to improve the sanitation conditions of the 15 000 refugees in the Dara Tang camp, train and organize a team of community health workers among the refugees and extend the immunization programme for mothers and children.

PAKISTAN **Extension of the Immunization programme for Afghan refugees in the North West Frontier Province :**
230 000 ECU

The purpose is to extend the Integrated Immunization programme for Afghan refugees, which is to be carried out by AVICEN (French NGO) with the cooperation of the Pakistan health authorities responsible for refugees. The main activities will be the training of Afghan para-medical staff and the vaccination of Afghan refugees in both Pakistan and Afghanistan.

THAILAND **Prosthetic and rehabilitation services for handicapped refugees : 400 000 ECU**

The project provides for assistance to refugees and displaced persons who are physically handicapped (mainly amputees) living in about 15 camps and Thai villages in Thailand. The programme which is run by the French NGO Organisation Handicap International (OHI), involves setting up 18 prosthetic workshops. About 250 local technicians as well as handicapped Khmer, Lowland Lao, Hmong, Karen and Thai people are to receive intensive training in the production of orthopaedic and prosthetic devices using locally available materials and in giving physiotherapy.

KAMPUCHEA **Repatriation assistance to returnees in Kampuchea :**
450 000 ECU

This UNHCR programme will assist some 1 300 refugee families who have already returned to Kampuchea to become self-sufficient and integrate with the local population living in 19 provinces of the Ba Phnom district in Prey Veng province and in 15 villages in the Phear dek district in Kandal province. It is hoped that other Kampuchean in Vietnam and in camps on the Thai-Kampuchean border will return voluntarily to the project area as a result of the better living conditions thus created.