



9.10.2019

OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Budgets

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2020
(2019/2028(BUD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Charles Goerens

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Underlines the need for the general budget of the European Union to adequately contribute to the delivery of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the objective of eradicating poverty as stipulated in Articles 3 and 21 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; stresses that the SDGs must be a strategic priority and that its implementation has to cut across all internal and external policies of the European Union; recalls that, according to the United Nations, achieving the SDGs will require between USD 5 and 7 trillion per year (of which between 2.5 and 3 trillion in developing countries); stresses that in order to be a credible global actor, the European Union must take on a leading role in achieving the SDGs and step up its Policy Coherence for Development (PCD); stresses the importance of dialogue, inclusive local involvement and ownership, and for EU aid reaching the people; underlines that the SDGs are interlinked and indivisible, but highlights that SDG 3 on health, SDG 4 on education, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 13 on climate action, and SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions must be more clearly reflected in the general budget of the European Union for 2020;
2. Emphasises that the Union and its Member States must honour their collective commitment, reconfirmed in 2015, to raise their official development assistance (ODA) to 0,7 % of their GNI by 2030; calls on the Commission and the Member States to present binding timelines for progressive increases towards this level; recalls the Union's collective commitment to provide the least developed countries with 0,20 % of GNI allocated to ODA; reiterates the commitment made by the Commission to dedicate at least 20 % of its total ODA to human development and social inclusion; highlights the need to promote and protect sexual and reproductive health and rights;
3. Reiterates its concerns as regards the use of development funds for non-development objectives and underlines that funding which does not fulfil ODA criteria must be sourced from other instruments than the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI); underlines the importance of ensuring human rights standards in all cooperation under the DCI and insists that in order to successfully combat poverty in the long-term, the EU must address the causes of poverty and inequalities; reaffirms its support for the budgetisation of the European Development Fund and insists on sufficient parliamentary scrutiny over the European Union's development funding;
4. Calls for an approach that is based on results, the enforcement of reporting mechanisms, efficiency and the monitoring of funds earmarked for EU development aid;
5. Expresses serious concern at the way in which the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) is being used; notes in particular that the priority awarded to funding migration and border management is often removed from the objectives of reducing poverty and tackling the root causes of migration, and that this can have adverse effects; considers it inappropriate, for example, to use that instrument to fund the Libyan Coast Guard without showing consideration for the very serious human rights violations being committed in Libya;

6. Underlines the rights-based approach in development and the principle of leaving no one behind; insists that Union policies and programmes must ensure human rights standards and help combatting the persisting global inequalities and discrimination based on factors such as income, ethnicity, sex, age, disabilities, religion or beliefs, sexual orientation and gender identity; stresses the need of support to non-discrimination and protection of human rights defenders;
7. Deplores the limited role the European Parliament has in the supervision and governance of the EUTF; considers it especially vital that Parliament be able to monitor the activities of the Operational Committee and calls on the Commission to provide detailed information on the decisions taken in that Committee and ensure that the European Parliament is represented at its meetings;
8. Insists on the need to advance SDG 5 on gender equality and calls for more concrete action in the Union's external policy, including targeted actions and measures for gender equality; insists on the need to combat violence against women and girls and to promote access to sexual and reproductive health and rights;
9. Underlines SDG 16 and support for democracy, good governance and the rule of law; draws attention to the importance of supporting dialogue, inclusive local ownership, and for creating a supportive environment for citizen participation; underlines the importance of young people and women as key agents of change; stresses the importance of including women in peace-making and conflict resolution;
10. Stresses the importance of supporting civilians in conflict areas and re-building societies emerging from conflict situations; draws attention to the situation of groups of Kurdish, Yazidi, Christian and other ethnic and religious minorities in the Middle East; stresses the importance of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East being functional and receiving sufficient support in times of reduced support from other global actors;
11. Supports the Commission's intention to clarify the doctrine it will apply in the area of development cooperation with states that violate the principles of the European Union's external policy;
12. Takes the view that the 2020 development budget should more consistently reflect the EU's focus on countries that are the least developed in the areas of education and youth employment, of girls and women experiencing gender-based violence and of universal access to water;
13. Calls for the Commission to ensure that the funding of climate change adaptation activities and other climate related activities in third countries complement the funding of activities from development cooperation instruments; points out that climate change may affect the already vulnerable more severely and could lead to backtracking on the progress that has already been made in combatting poverty and hunger; is concerned that climate change may have multiplying negative effects leading to more humanitarian crises, e.g. through increasing conflicts and wars;
14. Stresses the importance of promoting the creation of more decent and green jobs in line with SDG 8; draws attention to the links between trade and development, calls for the

Union to better support countries to participate in, and fully benefit from, international trade; stresses the importance of promoting dialogue between the social partners, in this respect, highlights initiatives like the Global Deal for Decent Work and Inclusive Growth; underlines the importance of ensuring labour rights in global value chains and of promoting decent work on the basis of the International Labour Organization's labour standards;

15. Takes the view that action must be taken to tackle humanitarian crises, with a particular focus on prevention, resilience building and cooperation with stakeholders, so as to find a solution to the global funding shortage for humanitarian action; points out that cooperation should be stepped up between governments, civil society and the private sector; insists on a significant increase in the funding allocation for the humanitarian aid budget lines in order to be prepared for new disasters and catastrophes instead of only covering ongoing crises, while at the same time ensuring sufficient funding for more long-term development cooperation for strong, resilient and inclusive societies; points out that crises are not likely to decrease, and that they are becoming more protracted; stresses the importance of good linkages between humanitarian aid and development cooperation;
16. Stresses the importance of maintaining payment appropriations in the humanitarian aid chapter at least at the same level as commitment appropriations, in order to avoid delayed payments that may have substantial negative effects on people and on implementing partners;
17. Insists that the Union cannot backtrack as a force for multilateralism and global cooperation, and calls for a sufficient funding allocation for development cooperation and humanitarian aid within the new multiannual financial framework;

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	8.10.2019
Result of final vote	+: 20 -: 2 0: 2
Members present for the final vote	Hildegard Bentele, Dominique Bilde, Udo Bullmann, Ryszard Czarnecki, Gianna Gancia, Mónica Silvana González, Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana, György Hölvényi, Martin Horwood, Rasa Juknevičienė, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Lukas Mandl, Louis Stedman-Bryce, Marc Tarabella, Tomas Tobé, Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, Bernard Zimniok
Substitutes present for the final vote	Manon Aubry, Stéphane Bijoux, Ellie Chowns, Ewa Kopacz, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, James Wells
Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote	Sándor Rónai

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

20	+
ECR	Ryszard Czarnecki
GUE/NGL	Manon Aubry
ID	Gianna Gancia
PPE	Hildegard Bentele, György Hölvényi, Rasa Juknevičienė, Ewa Kopacz, Lukas Mandl, Tomas Tobé
Renew	Stéphane Bijoux, Martin Horwood, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, Chrysoula Zacharopoulou
S&D	Udo Bullmann, Mónica Silvana González, Pierfrancesco Majorino, Sándor Rónai, Marc Tarabella
Verts/ALE	Ellie Chowns, Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana

2	-
NI	Louis Stedman-Bryce, James Wells

2	0
ID	Dominique Bilde, Bernhard Zimniok

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention