



14.8.2019

DRAFT 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

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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 EU budget to adequately contribute to the delivery of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); stresses that the SDGs must be a strategic priority and that its implementation has to cut across the EU internal and external policies;
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 (LDCs) 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;
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); is concerned by recent allocations under the DCI (21 02 04 Cooperation with the Middle East) to develop a dialogue and cooperation with Iran; recalls that Iran is an upper middle income country and should therefore receive funding from the Partnership Instrument;
4. Draws attention to the ongoing sectorial budget support payments to Myanmar (21 02 02 Asia); recalls the UN report stating that the killing of more than 10.000 Rohingya people and the mass exodus of more than 700.000 Rohingya people from Myanmar was a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing"; considers that under such circumstances, the budget support to the government should be suspended and the money should instead be spent through other channels (such as international organisations and NGOs) in order to reach the poorest;
5. Insists on a significant funding increase for humanitarian aid budget lines in order to be prepared for new disasters and catastrophes instead of only covering ongoing crises; recalls that the state of emergency can sometimes last for several years;
6. Stresses the importance of maintaining payment appropriations in the humanitarian aid chapter at least at the same level as commitment appropriations.