

Brussels, 10 June 2010

GENERAL BUDGET – 2010 FINANCIAL YEAR

SECTION VII – COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS Dec 2/2010

(Article 24 of the Financial Regulation)

**GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
SECTION VII - COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

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(Article 24 of the Financial Regulation)

Reason

1. Introduction

In its Resolution on the 2010 budget, the European Parliament asked that the current cooperation arrangements in place for the sharing of internal translation resources between the translation services of the EU Institutions be re-negotiated, and introduced a cross-cutting reserve of 5% for external translation services, to be released on presentation to the budgetary authority of a concrete proposal for a system of internal resource sharing.

The purpose of this transfer is to request the release of the appropriation on budget line 1420 from the reserve, following the issue of a note from the Inter-institutional Committee for Translation and Interpretation (ICTI) on 11 May 2010.

2. Description

On 24 February the then ICTI (Inter-institutional Committee for Translation and Interpretation) Chairman, Mr Juhani Lönnroth, Director General of Translation at the European Commission, accompanied by Director of the CoR-EESC Joint Services Translation Directorate, Mr Gonzalo Bescós, met with Mr Manka (COBU rapporteur for the 2010 budget) to clarify in more detail Parliament's expectations and to inform Mr Manka about the considerable existing inter-institutional cooperation in the field of translation.

On 11 May the current acting Chairman of ICTI sent to Mr Lamassoure, Chairman of the EP Committee on Budgets, a joint reply from all translation services of the EU institutions to the above-mentioned request from Parliament. This note gives an overview of the current climate as well as an outline of the incentives carried out so far in order to reinforce inter-institutional cooperation. It also includes two annexes – the first providing a global and summarized overview of the existing inter-institutional resource-sharing and cooperation activities in the field of translation as well as an inventory of future cooperation agreements. Annex II provides a description and statistics related to the current workload balancing scheme (WLB) and the way forward.

It is hoped that this joint reply will meet the Parliament's expectations and that the 5% reserve can thus be released.

It should also be stressed that the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions have a joint translation service, working for two Assemblies, which is a most effective method of workload balancing for two political bodies that have similar size and functions and which are thus able to balance their growing translation demand through the joint setting of their meetings timetable (nine Plenary and Bureau meetings a year for the EESC and five for the CoR, with 344 Members in each Committee). The significant savings generated this way have already been quantified in various documents provided to the budgetary authority in the past.

It should also be remembered that in 2008, following a similar requests on the part of the budgetary authority with a view to search for possible savings, the two Committees carried out an important re-deployment of posts from the translation services to the other services (thus reducing by 8% the number of translators and by 17% the number of assistants in the 22 language units, and increasing productivity in a context of ever growing translation demand).

Transfer of amount put in reserve (Chapter 10 0) by Parliament during the Budgetary Procedure 2010 to Budget line 1420 "Supplementary services for the translation service" for EUR 15 500.

Proposed transfer of appropriations from title to title: No COR-Dec 2/2010

			Debit (EUR)	Credit (EUR)
<u>From Title</u>	10	Other Expenses (reserve)		
Chapter	0	Provisional appropriations	15 500	
<u>To Title</u>	1	Persons working with the institution		
Chapter	14	Other staff and outside services		
Item	1420	Supplementary services for the translation service		15 500

3. State of appropriations as at 26 May 2010

Proposed transfer of appropriations: No COR-Dec 2/2010

Item	Initial appropriation +/- Transfers	Contractual commitments	Payments made	Appropriations available before proposed transfer	Amount of proposed transfer	Appropriations available after proposed transfer
<u>Donor</u>						
A-10 0	15 500	0	0	15 500	-15 500	0
<u>Recipient</u>						
A-1420	294 500	149 000	17 526	145 500	15 500	161 000

4. **Conclusion**

The releasing of the reserve for the budget line 1420 "Supplementary services for the translation service" is necessary to enable the Committee of the Regions to externalise the translation of documents during the peak periods in 2010.

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Registered on:

Authorisation of the verifying officer,
Date

Authorisation of the authorising officer,
Date

Gerhard Stahl
Secretary-General
