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*Committee on Development*

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**2012/0245(COD)**

1.2.2013

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## **DRAFT REPORT**

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council  
Establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps - EU Aid  
Volunteers  
(COM(2012)0514 – C7-0303/2012 – 2012/0245(COD))

Committee on Development

Rapporteur: Michèle Striffler

***Symbols for procedures***

- \* Consultation procedure
- \*\*\* Consent procedure
- \*\*\*I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- \*\*\*II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- \*\*\*III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

***Amendments to a draft act***

In amendments by Parliament, amendments to draft acts are highlighted in bold italics. Highlighting in normal italics is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the draft act which may require correction when the final text is prepared – for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a language version. Suggested corrections of this kind are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

The heading for any amendment to an existing act that the draft act seeks to amend includes a third line identifying the existing act and a fourth line identifying the provision in that act that Parliament wishes to amend. Passages in an existing act that Parliament wishes to amend, but that the draft act has left unchanged, are highlighted in bold. Any deletions that Parliament wishes to make in such passages are indicated thus: [...].

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## DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

### on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council Establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps - EU Aid Volunteers (COM(2012)0514 – C7-0303/2012 – 2012/0245(COD))

#### (Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2012)0514),
  - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 214(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C7-0303/2012),
  - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
  - having regard to Rule 55 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Development and the opinions of the Committee on Budgets and the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (A7-0000/2013),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
  2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
  3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

#### Amendment 1

#### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) The Union's humanitarian aid is delivered in situations where other instruments related to development cooperation, crisis management and civil protection operate. The EU Aid Volunteers should work in a coherent and complementarity manner with relevant policies and instruments in order to make the most effective use of these instruments while systematically promoting

*Amendment*

(4) The Union's humanitarian aid is delivered in situations where other instruments related to development cooperation, crisis management and civil protection operate. The EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** should work in a coherent and complementarity manner with relevant policies and instruments in order to make the most effective use of these instruments while systematically promoting

humanitarian principles and long-term development goals. Synergies of the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers should be sought with the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the Emergency Response Centre established by Decision XX/XXXX and with the EEAS and the EU Delegations in order to coordinate the Union's response to humanitarian crises in third countries.

humanitarian principles and long-term development goals. Synergies of the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* should be sought *in particular* with *the Union's humanitarian aid policy, development cooperation policy and* the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the Emergency Response Centre established by Decision XX/XXXX and with the EEAS and the EU Delegations in order to coordinate the Union's response to humanitarian crises in third countries.

Or. en

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 8

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) There are gaps in the current landscape of humanitarian volunteering that the EU Aid Volunteers can fill with the volunteers with the right profiles deployed at the right time to the right place. This could be achieved notably through providing European standards on identification and selection of humanitarian volunteers, commonly agreed benchmarks for training and preparation of humanitarian volunteers for deployment, improved registers of potential volunteers who are identified based on the needs in the field, and opportunities for volunteers to contribute to humanitarian operations not only by deployment but also through back-office support and online-volunteering activities.

#### *Amendment*

(8) There are gaps in the current landscape of humanitarian volunteering that the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* can fill with the volunteers with the right profiles deployed at the right time to the right place. This could be achieved notably through providing European standards on identification and selection of humanitarian volunteers, commonly agreed benchmarks for training and preparation of humanitarian volunteers for deployment, improved registers of potential volunteers who are identified based on the needs in the field, and opportunities for volunteers to contribute to humanitarian operations not only by deployment but also through back-office support and online-volunteering activities.

Or. en

### Amendment 3

#### Proposal for a regulation Recital 13

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) The Union's principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination suggest that Union citizens and long-term residents in the Union of all walks of life and age should be able to engage as active citizens. Given the specific challenges of the humanitarian context, participants *of* the EU Aid Volunteers should be aged over 18.

*Amendment*

(13) The Union's principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination suggest that Union citizens and long-term residents in the Union of all walks of life and age should be able to engage as active citizens. Given the specific challenges of the humanitarian context, participants *in* the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* should be aged over 18.

Or. en

### Amendment 4

#### Proposal for a regulation Recital 14 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(14a) The actions of the EU Aid Volunteers should be carried out in such a way as to take into account the recommendations contained in the Policy Agenda for Volunteering in Europe (PAVE), the work of European international volunteering organisations and the United Nations Volunteers programme.***

Or. fr

## Amendment 5

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 15

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) The EU Aid Volunteers should support local humanitarian aid organisations in third countries. Its activities should increase the hosting organisations' capacity to deal with humanitarian crises and to professionally manage the EU Aid Volunteers, to effectively use their skills and competences and to ensure that the volunteers' contributions have a sustainable impact on local communities thereby assisting the people in need affected by humanitarian crises, who are the final beneficiaries of the Union's humanitarian aid.

*Amendment*

(15) The EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** should support local humanitarian aid organisations in third countries. Its activities should increase the hosting organisations' capacity to deal with humanitarian crises and to professionally manage the EU Aid Volunteers, to effectively use their skills and competences and to ensure that the volunteers' contributions have a sustainable impact on local communities thereby assisting the people in need affected by humanitarian crises, who are the final beneficiaries of the Union's humanitarian aid.

Or. en

## Amendment 6

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 15 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(15a) This Regulation should lay down, for the entire duration of the instrument, a financial envelope constituting the prime reference, within the meaning of point [ ] of the Interinstitutional Agreement of XX/201Z between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, for the budgetary authority during the annual budgetary procedure.***

Or. en



## Amendment 7

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 16

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(16) The financial provisions of this Regulation should apply as of 1 January 2014 as they are related to the Multi-annual Financial Framework 2014-2020. The allocation of financial assistance should be implemented in accordance with Regulation No xxx/2012 applicable to the general budget of the European Union (the Financial Regulation). Due to the specific nature of action of the EU Aid Volunteers, it is appropriate to provide that financial assistance may be awarded to natural, public and private law legal persons. It is also important to ensure that the rules of that Regulation are respected, in particular regarding the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness laid down therein.

*Amendment*

(16) The financial provisions of this Regulation should apply as of 1 January 2014 as they are related to the Multi-annual Financial Framework 2014-2020. The allocation of financial assistance should be implemented in accordance with Regulation No xxx/2012 applicable to the general budget of the European Union (the Financial Regulation). Due to the specific nature of action of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative***, it is appropriate to provide that financial assistance may be awarded to natural, public and private law legal persons. It is also important to ensure that the rules of that Regulation are respected, in particular regarding the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness laid down therein.

Or. en

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a regulation Recital 16 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(16a) Improving implementation and quality of spending should constitute guiding principles for achievement of the objectives of this Regulation, while ensuring optimal use of financial resources.***

Or. en

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 18

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(18) Participation of third countries, in particular acceding, candidate, EFTA **and partner countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy**, should be possible on the basis of cooperation conventions.

*Amendment*

(18) Participation of third countries, in particular acceding, candidate **and** EFTA countries, should be possible on the basis of cooperation conventions.

Or. fr

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Recital 19

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(19) In order to allow for continuous feedback and improvement, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of provisions relating to the standards for management of EU Aid Volunteers **and** the amendment of the performance indicators. It is of particular importance that the Commission carries out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level. The Commission, when preparing and **drawing-up** delegated acts, should ensure a simultaneous, timely and appropriate transmission of relevant documents to the European Parliament and Council.

*Amendment*

(19) In order to allow for continuous feedback and improvement **and to increase the flexibility and efficiency of their adoption**, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of **the** provisions relating to the standards for management **and deployment of EU Aid Volunteers, the amendment of the performance indicators and the adoption of the multiannual work programmes that define the objectives, priorities, expected results, method of implementation and financial allocations in broad terms**. It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level. The Commission, when preparing and **drawing up** delegated acts, should ensure a simultaneous, timely and appropriate transmission of relevant documents to the European Parliament and **to the** Council.

**Amendment 11****Proposal for a regulation****Recital 20***Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers. The examination procedure should be used for the adoption of the certification mechanism, the training programme and the annual work programme of the Corps.

*Amendment*

(20) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers. The examination procedure should be used for the adoption of the certification mechanism, the training programme and the annual work programme of the Corps, ***which should give effect to the multiannual work programmes referred to in this Regulation.***

**Amendment 12****Proposal for a regulation****Article 1***Text proposed by the Commission*

This Regulation establishes a European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps (hereinafter referred to as 'the EU Aid Volunteers') as a framework for joint contributions from European volunteers in humanitarian aid operations of the Union.

*Amendment*

This Regulation establishes a European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps (hereinafter referred to as 'the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative***') as a framework for joint contributions from European volunteers in humanitarian aid operations of the Union.

This Regulation lays down the rules and procedures for the operation of the EU Aid Volunteers and rules for the provision of financial assistance.

This Regulation lays down the rules and procedures for the operation of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* and rules for the provision of financial assistance.

Or. en

### Amendment 13

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. deployment of EU Aid Volunteers in humanitarian aid operations in third countries.

*Amendment*

1. deployment of EU Aid Volunteers in humanitarian aid operations in third countries, ***except in the context of armed conflicts and internal disturbances.***

Or. fr

### Amendment 14

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The objective of the EU Aid Volunteers shall be to express the Union's humanitarian values and solidarity with people in need, through the promotion of an effective and visible EU Aid Volunteers' initiative, which contributes to strengthening the Union's capacity to respond to humanitarian crises and to building the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities in third countries.

*Amendment*

The objective of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* shall be to express the Union's humanitarian values and solidarity with people in need ***and to contribute to European citizenship***, through the promotion of an effective and visible EU Aid Volunteers' initiative, which ***possesses significant added value and*** contributes to strengthening the Union's capacity to respond to humanitarian crises and to building the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities in third countries, ***particularly by means of preparation for disasters, disaster risk reduction and enhancing the link between relief,***

*rehabilitation and development.*

Or. fr

## **Amendment 15**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) The actions of the EU Aid Volunteers shall be conducted in compliance with the humanitarian aid principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

(2) The actions of the EU Aid Volunteers shall respond to the need of local communities and hosting organisations and should contribute to the professionalization of the provision of humanitarian aid.

(3) The safety and security of volunteers shall be a priority.

(4) The EU Aid Volunteers shall promote common activities and participation of volunteers from different countries and foster joint projects and transnational partnerships between implementing organisations as referred to in Article 10.

*Amendment*

(1) The actions of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** shall be conducted in compliance with the humanitarian aid principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

(2) The actions of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** shall respond to the need of local communities and hosting organisations and should contribute to the professionalization of the provision of humanitarian aid.

(3) The safety and security of volunteers shall be a priority.

(4) The EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** shall promote common activities and participation of volunteers from different countries and foster joint projects and transnational partnerships between implementing organisations as referred to in Article 10.

Or. en

## **Amendment 16**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***4a. A forum for consultation and dialogue, bringing together representatives of the Commission,***

***Member States and the sending and hosting organisations, shall be established when the programme is launched, to pursue the objectives of the initiative.***

Or. fr

## **Amendment 17**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) 'candidate volunteer' means a person eligible in the sense of Article 11(1) applying for participation in the activities of the EU Aid Volunteers.

*Amendment*

(b) 'candidate volunteer' means a person eligible in the sense of Article 11(1) applying for participation in the activities of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative***.

Or. fr

## **Amendment 18**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) an 'EU Aid Volunteer' means a candidate volunteer that has been selected, trained, assessed as eligible and registered as available for deployment in humanitarian aid operations in third countries.

*Amendment*

(c) an 'EU Aid Volunteer' means a candidate volunteer that has been selected, trained ***in accordance with the standards and specific reference criteria with the support of the EU***, assessed as eligible and registered as available for deployment in humanitarian aid operations in third countries.

Or. fr

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) 'humanitarian aid' means activities and operations intended to provide needs-based emergency assistance aimed at preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering and maintaining human dignity in the face of man-made crises or natural disasters. It encompasses assistance, relief and protection operations in humanitarian crises or their immediate aftermath, supporting measures to ensure access to people in need and to facilitate the free flow of assistance, as well as actions aimed at reinforcing disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction, and contributing towards strengthening resilience and capacity to cope with, and recover from, crises.

*Amendment*

(d) 'humanitarian aid' means activities and operations, ***in accordance with the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid***, intended to provide needs-based emergency assistance aimed at preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering and maintaining human dignity in the face of man-made crises or natural disasters. It encompasses assistance, relief and protection operations in humanitarian crises or their immediate aftermath, supporting measures to ensure access to people in need and to facilitate the free flow of assistance, as well as actions aimed at reinforcing disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction, and contributing towards strengthening resilience and capacity to cope with, and recover from, crises.

Or. fr

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraphs 1 and 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. In implementing the Regulation, coherence shall be ensured with other areas of Union's external action and with other relevant Union policies. Particular attention shall be given to ensure smooth transition between relief, rehabilitation and development.

*Amendment*

1. In implementing the Regulation, coherence ***and complementarity*** shall be ensured with other areas of *the* Union's external action and with other relevant Union policies, ***particularly humanitarian aid policy, development cooperation policy and the Union's Civil Protection Mechanism, in order, in particular, to ensure the added value of the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers Initiative.***

2. The Commission and the Member States shall cooperate to improve the consistency and coherence between relevant national volunteering schemes and the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers.

3. The Union shall foster cooperation with relevant international organisation, in particular the United Nations, and other humanitarian aid partners in implementation of the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers.

Particular attention shall be given to ensure smooth transition between relief, rehabilitation and development.

2. The Commission and the Member States shall cooperate to improve the consistency and coherence between relevant national volunteering schemes and the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers.

3. The Union shall foster cooperation with relevant international organisation, in particular the United Nations, and other humanitarian aid partners in implementation of the actions of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative*.

Or. fr

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The EU Aid Volunteers shall pursue the following operational objectives:

*Amendment*

1. The EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* shall pursue the following operational objectives:

Or. fr

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) Increase in and improvement of the capacity of the Union to provide humanitarian aid

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on the basis of indicators, such as:

*Amendment*

(a) Increase in and improvement of the capacity of the Union to provide humanitarian aid

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on the basis of indicators, such as:



- the number of EU Aid Volunteers deployed or ready for deployment;
- the number of people reached by humanitarian aid provided by the Union.

- the number of EU Aid Volunteers deployed or ready for deployment;
- the number of people reached by humanitarian aid provided by the Union;
- *the degree of satisfaction of the volunteers deployed, of the sending and hosting organisations and of communities in the third countries participating in or receiving this aid, with regard to the effective humanitarian contribution of the volunteers on the ground.*

Or. fr

## Amendment 23

### Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point b

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) Improvement of the skills and competences of volunteers in the field of humanitarian aid and the conditions under which they are working

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on the basis of indicators, such as:

- *the number of volunteers trained and the quality of the training on the basis of the reviews and level of satisfaction;*
- the number of certified sending organisations applying the standards for deployment and management of EU Aid Volunteers.

#### *Amendment*

(b) Improvement of the skills, *knowledge level* and competences of volunteers in the field of humanitarian aid and the conditions under which they are working

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on the basis of indicators, such as:

- the quality of the training *of volunteers* on the basis of the reviews and level of satisfaction;
- the number of certified sending organisations applying the standards for deployment and management of EU Aid Volunteers;
- *the degree of satisfaction of the volunteers trained, of the sending and hosting organisations and of communities in the third countries participating in or receiving this aid, with regard to the quality of training, level of knowledge, competences and working conditions of the volunteers;*

*– changes in working conditions for volunteers.*

Or. fr

## **Amendment 24**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point c**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) Building the capacity of hosting organisations and foster volunteering in third countries

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on the basis of indicators, such as:

- the number and type of capacity building actions;
- the number of third country staff and volunteers participating in the capacity building actions.

*Amendment*

(c) Building the capacity of hosting organisations and foster volunteering in third countries

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on the basis of indicators, such as:

- the number and type of capacity building actions *in third countries*;
- the number of third country staff and volunteers participating in the capacity building actions;
- *the degree of satisfaction of staff of the hosting organisations and volunteers from third countries participating in capacity building actions, with regard to the quality of the actions carried out.*

Or. fr

## **Amendment 25**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 7 – paragraph 1 – point d**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) To promote the visibility of the Union's humanitarian aid values

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on

*Amendment*

(d) To promote the visibility of the Union's humanitarian aid values

Progress towards the achievement of this operational objective shall be assessed on

the basis of indicators, such as:

– *the EU Aid Volunteers' level of knowledge about EU humanitarian aid;*

– The level of awareness about the *Humanitarian Voluntary Corps* among the targeted population in the Union, the participating and benefitting third country communities and other humanitarian actors.

the basis of indicators, such as:

– *The number and type of information, communication and awareness-raising actions before, during and after the deployment of the volunteers;*

– The level of awareness about the *EU Aid Volunteers Initiative* among the targeted population in the Union, the participating and benefitting third country communities and other humanitarian actors.

Or. fr

## Amendment 26

### Proposal for a regulation Article 7 – paragraph 2

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The indicators referred to under paragraph 1(a) to (e) shall be used for monitoring, evaluation and review of performance as appropriate. They are indicative and may be amended in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 25 in order to take into account experience from the progress measurement.

#### *Amendment*

2. The indicators referred to under paragraph 1(a) to (e) shall be used for monitoring, evaluation and review of performance as appropriate. They are indicative and may be amended in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 25 in order to take into account experience from the progress measurement. *The Commission shall draw up qualitative indicators relating to effectiveness, the response to needs identified on the ground, the sustainability of the actions carried out and the added value provided by the EU aid volunteers in increasing the Union's capacity to respond to humanitarian crises as defined in Article 3.*

Or. fr

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a regulation Chapter II – title

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Actions of the EU Aid Volunteers

*Amendment*

Actions of the EU Aid Volunteers  
***Initiative***

Or. en

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a regulation Article 8

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Article 8

Actions of the EU Aid Volunteers

The EU Aid Volunteers shall pursue the objectives referred to in Articles 3 and 7 through the following types of actions:

- Development and maintenance of standards regarding candidate and EU Aid Volunteers;
- Development and maintenance of a certification mechanism for sending and hosting organisations;
- Identification and selection of candidate volunteers;
- Establishment of a training programme and support for training and apprenticeship placements;
- Establishment, maintenance and updating of a Register of EU Aid Volunteers;
- Deployment of EU Aid Volunteers in third countries for humanitarian aid activities and operations;

*Amendment*

Article 8

Actions of the EU Aid Volunteers  
***Initiative***

The EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** shall pursue the objectives referred to in Articles 3 and 7 through the following types of actions:

- Development and maintenance of standards regarding candidate and EU Aid Volunteers;
- Development and maintenance of a certification mechanism for sending and hosting organisations;
- Identification and selection of candidate volunteers;
- Establishment of a training programme and support for training and apprenticeship placements;
- Establishment, maintenance and updating of a Register of EU Aid Volunteers;
- Deployment of EU Aid Volunteers in third countries for humanitarian aid activities and operations;

– Capacity building of hosting organisations;

– Establishment and management of an EU Aid Volunteers' Network;

– Communication, awareness raising and visibility;

– Ancillary activity that furthers the accountability, transparency and effectiveness of the EU Aid Volunteers.

– Capacity building of hosting organisations;

– ***Recognition and acknowledgement of the experience of volunteers who have successfully participated in the EU Aid Volunteers Initiative;***

– Establishment and management of an EU Aid Volunteers' Network;

– Communication, awareness raising and visibility;

– Ancillary activity that furthers the accountability, transparency and effectiveness of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative.***

Or. fr

## Amendment 29

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) the identification, selection and preparation of candidate volunteers for deployment in humanitarian aid operations;

*Amendment*

(a) the identification, selection and preparation of candidate volunteers for deployment in humanitarian aid operations;

***Candidate volunteers shall be identified and selected on the basis of specific skills and knowledge in response to needs identified in the countries of deployment which provide added value to the host organisations and local communities.***

***Identification and selection shall be so performed as to ensure diversity of profiles and skills among the young people and experts, while always responding to practical needs identified on the ground.***

Or. fr

## Amendment 30

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) management and deployment of EU Aid Volunteers in third countries.

*Amendment*

(b) management and deployment of EU Aid Volunteers in third countries.

***The context of the deployment shall take into account the skills and language knowledge of EU aid volunteers.***

Or. fr

## Amendment 31

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 9 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. These standards shall be established in the light of the existing standards and programmes, with the objective defined in Article 3.***

Or. fr

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 10 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. In designing the certification scheme, the Commission shall seek synergies with the Commission's partnership instruments in the humanitarian field and existing humanitarian standards, with the aim of administrative simplification.***

Or. fr

### Amendment 33

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 2 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) ***The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and*** the International Federation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;

*Amendment*

(b) The International Federation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;

Or. fr

### Amendment 34

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. Without prejudice to the requirements referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, sending and hosting organisations may implement actions of the EU Aid Volunteers in association with for-profit private organisations.

*Amendment*

4. Without prejudice to the requirements referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, sending and hosting organisations may implement actions of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative*** in association with for-profit private organisations.

Or. fr

### Amendment 35

#### Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall establish a training programme in order to prepare the candidate volunteers for undertaking humanitarian activities and for deployment in humanitarian aid operations.

*Amendment*

1. ***On the basis of existing standards and in partnership with specialised institutions,*** the Commission shall establish a training programme in order to prepare the candidate volunteers for undertaking humanitarian activities and for

deployment in humanitarian aid operations.

Or. fr

### **Amendment 36**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Candidate volunteers who have been identified and selected in accordance with Article 11 shall be eligible to participate in the training programme. The individual scope and content of the training each candidate volunteer needs to accomplish shall be determined on the basis of his or her needs taking into account prior experience.

*Amendment*

2. Candidate volunteers who have been identified and selected in accordance with Article 11 shall be eligible to participate in the **European** training programme **organised by specialised organisations**. The individual scope and content of the training each candidate volunteer needs to accomplish shall be determined on the basis of his or her needs taking into account prior experience.

Or. fr

### **Amendment 37**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The training programme shall include an assessment of the candidate volunteers' readiness to be deployed in humanitarian aid operations.

*Amendment*

5. The training programme shall include an assessment of the candidate volunteers' readiness to be deployed in humanitarian aid operations, **which shall be performed in cooperation with the sending organisations**.

Or. fr



## Amendment 38

### Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. EU Aid Volunteers included in the Register may be deployed in humanitarian aid activities and operations as defined in Article 5(d):

*Amendment*

1. EU Aid Volunteers included in the Register may be deployed in humanitarian aid activities and operations, ***except in the context of armed conflicts and internal disturbances***, as defined in Article 5(d):

Or. fr

## Amendment 39

### Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 1 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***1a. Deployments must meet the real needs expressed at local level by the hosting organisations. The role of the volunteers shall be clearly defined.***

Or. fr

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a regulation Article 14 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***14a. Recognition and acknowledgement of the experience of volunteers***

***1. The Commission shall support actions to acknowledge the experience and recognise the commitment of volunteers with a view to recognition of their experience and acknowledgement in professional circles and in society of what they have attained. The experience of volunteers (who have successfully***

*participated in the initiative) may be certified after the deployment on the ground.*

*2. The register may differentiate among EU aid volunteers according to their previous experience of humanitarian action. After their first deployment, experienced EU aid volunteers may be issued with a certificate (as EU aid volunteers).*

Or. fr

## Amendment 41

### Proposal for a regulation

#### Article 16

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall establish and manage *a* EU Aid Volunteers' Network (hereinafter referred to as 'the Network').
2. The Network shall facilitate interaction among candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers who are participating or have participated in the *initiative*; between these volunteers and other beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers, notably by those referred to in Article 15; and among other relevant actors. It shall provide opportunities for virtual interaction, notably through knowledge sharing and dissemination of information on the EU Aid *Volunteers' initiative*; and shall support other appropriate activities such as seminars and workshops.
3. The Network shall also provide and promote opportunities for on-line volunteering to complement and reinforce the activities of the EU Aid Volunteers.

##### *Amendment*

1. The Commission shall establish and manage *an* EU Aid Volunteers' Network (hereinafter referred to as 'the Network').
2. The Network shall facilitate interaction among candidate volunteers and EU Aid Volunteers who are participating or have participated in the *EU Aid Volunteers Initiative*; between these volunteers and other beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative*, notably by those referred to in Article 15; and among other relevant actors. It shall provide opportunities for virtual interaction, notably through knowledge sharing and dissemination of information on the EU Aid *Volunteers Initiative*; and shall support other appropriate activities such as seminars and workshops.
3. The Network shall also provide and promote opportunities for on-line volunteering to complement and reinforce the activities of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative*.

**Amendment 42****Proposal for a regulation****Article 17 – paragraphs 1 and 2***Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall support public information, communication and awareness raising actions to promote the EU Aid *Volunteers' initiative* and to encourage volunteering in humanitarian aid within the Union and in the third countries benefitting from its actions.

2. The Commission shall develop an information and communication action plan on the objectives, actions and results of the EU Aid Volunteers which shall define communication and dissemination activities towards the public, in particular the European citizens and towards future potential candidate volunteers and beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers' actions. All beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers, notably sending and hosting organisations, shall implement this action plan.

*Amendment*

1. The Commission shall support public information, communication and awareness raising actions to promote the EU Aid *Volunteers Initiative* and to encourage volunteering in humanitarian aid within the Union and in the third countries benefitting from its actions. ***Such actions shall support existing initiatives in the Member States.***

2. The Commission shall develop an information and communication action plan on the objectives, actions and results of the EU Aid Volunteers ***Initiative***, which shall define communication and dissemination activities towards the public, in particular the European citizens and towards future potential candidate volunteers and beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers' actions. All beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers, notably sending and hosting organisations, shall implement this action plan.

Or. fr

**Amendment 43****Proposal for a regulation****Article 17***Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall support public information, communication and awareness raising actions to promote the

*Amendment*

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EU Aid *Volunteers' initiative* and to encourage volunteering in humanitarian aid within the Union and in the third countries benefitting from its actions.

2. The Commission shall develop an information and communication action plan on the objectives, actions and results of the EU Aid Volunteers which shall define communication and dissemination activities towards the public, in particular the European citizens and towards future potential candidate volunteers and beneficiaries of the *EU Aid Volunteers' actions*. All beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers, notably sending and hosting organisations, shall implement this action plan.

3. EU Aid Volunteers shall, where necessary with the assistance and direction of the sending and hosting organisations, participate in appropriate information, communication and awareness raising activities before, during and after deployment to promote the EU Aid Volunteers and their engagement therein. The Commission shall define those activities, which shall not impose disproportionate obligations on the volunteers.

EU Aid *Volunteers Initiative* and to encourage volunteering in humanitarian aid within the Union and in the third countries benefitting from its actions.

2. The Commission shall develop an information and communication action plan on the objectives, actions and results of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* which shall define communication and dissemination activities towards the public, in particular the European citizens and towards future potential candidate volunteers and beneficiaries of the *actions of the EU Aid Volunteers Initiative*. All beneficiaries of the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative*, notably sending and hosting organisations, shall implement this action plan.

3. EU Aid Volunteers shall, where necessary with the assistance and direction of the sending and hosting organisations, participate in appropriate information, communication and awareness raising activities before, during and after deployment to promote the EU Aid Volunteers *Initiative* and their engagement therein. The Commission shall define those activities, which shall not impose disproportionate obligations on the volunteers.

Or. en

## Amendment 44

### Proposal for a regulation Chapter III – title

*Text proposed by the Commission*

#### *Financial provisions*

*Amendment*

#### *Programming and allocation of funds*

Or. en

## Amendment 45

### Proposal for a regulation Article 18 – paragraphs 1 and 2

*Text proposed by the Commission*

#### 18. Eligible actions

1. The actions referred to in Article 8 shall be eligible for financial assistance, including the measures necessary for their implementation as well as measures aimed at strengthening the coordination between the EU Aid *Volunteers' initiative* and other relevant schemes at national and international level.

2. The financial allocation referred to in paragraph 1 may also cover expenses pertaining to preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities, which are required for the management of the EU Aid *Volunteers' initiative* and the achievement of its objectives.

*Amendment*

#### 18. Eligible actions

1. The actions referred to in Article 8 shall be eligible for financial assistance, including the measures necessary for their implementation as well as measures aimed at strengthening the coordination between the EU Aid *Volunteers Initiative* and other relevant schemes at national and international level.

2. The financial allocation referred to in paragraph 1 may also cover expenses pertaining to preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities, which are required for the management of the EU Aid *Volunteers Initiative* and the achievement of its objectives.

Or. en

## Amendment 46

### Proposal for a regulation Article 18 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### *Article 18a*

##### *Multiannual work programmes*

***1. Without prejudice to the powers of the budgetary authority, the Commission shall adopt two consecutive multiannual indicative work programmes jointly covering the period 2014-2020, in accordance with the general principles of this Regulation. They shall constitute the basis for annual programming in the framework of this Regulation.***

*2. The Union documents referred to in paragraph 1 shall be considered strategic programming documents. The Commission shall adopt those Union documents by means of delegated acts in accordance with Article 25.*

*3. The multiannual work programmes shall define the objectives pursued, the priorities, the expected results, the method of implementation, the financial allocations in broad terms and, for grants, the priorities, the essential evaluation criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing.*

*4. The Commission shall conduct an evaluation of the results obtained during the period covered by the first multiannual work programme and the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of this Regulation in accordance with Article 26. The Commission shall fully consider the conclusions of this evaluation when preparing the second multiannual work programme and, if appropriate, adopt a legislative proposal to amend this Regulation.*

Or. en

## **Amendment 47**

### **Proposal for a regulation Article 18 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

#### *Article 18b*

##### *Annual work programmes*

*1. Without prejudice to the powers of the budgetary authority, the Commission shall adopt annual indicative work programmes, which are based on and in line with the multiannual work*

*programme as provided for in Article 18a, and in accordance with the general principles of this Regulation.*

*2. The Union documents referred to in paragraph 1 shall be adopted by means of implementing acts. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 24(2).*

*3. The annual work programmes shall contain the description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action and the indicative implementation timetable.*

Or. en

## Amendment 48

### Proposal for a regulation Article 20

*Text proposed by the Commission*

#### 20. **Budgetary resources**

The financial reference amount for the implementation of this Regulation for the period 2014 to 2020 shall be **EUR 239.100.000** at current prices. If necessary, appropriations could be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover similar expenses, in order to enable the management of actions not yet completed by 31 December 2020.

*Amendment*

#### 20. **Financial reference amount**

The financial reference amount for the implementation of this Regulation for the period 2014 to 2020 shall be **EUR [...]** at current prices. If necessary, **payment** appropriations could be entered in the budget beyond 2020 to cover similar expenses, in order to enable the **payment** management of actions not yet completed by 31 December 2020.

Or. fr

## Amendment 49

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 3

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***3. In order to implement this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt an annual work programme of the EU Aid Volunteers' initiative in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 24(2). It shall set out the objectives pursued, the expected results, the method of implementation and their total amount. It shall also contain the description of actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action and an indicative implementation timetable. For grants, they shall include the priorities, the essential evaluation criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing.***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

Or. fr

## Amendment 50

### Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The Commission may consider the added-value and management advantages of creating an EU Trust Fund.

*Amendment*

4. The Commission may consider the added-value and management advantages of creating an EU Trust Fund, ***in respect of Article 187 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>1</sup>.***

***The provisions regulating the creation, objectives, management and implementation of such a Trust Fund shall be adopted by means of delegated acts in accordance with Article 25.***



## Amendment 51

### Proposal for a regulation Article 23 – paragraph 1 – point a

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The EU Aid Volunteers shall be open to participation of:

(a) citizens and sending organisations from acceding countries, candidate countries, potential *candidates* countries **and partner countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy** in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union's programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements and Association Council Decisions, or similar arrangements;

#### *Amendment*

1. The EU Aid Volunteers shall be open to participation of:

(a) citizens and sending organisations from acceding countries, candidate countries **and** potential *candidate* countries in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union's programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements and Association Council Decisions, or similar arrangements;

## Amendment 52

### Proposal for a regulation Article 24 – paragraph 1

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the committee established under Article 17 (1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 concerning humanitarian aid. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

#### *Amendment*

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the committee established under Article 17 (1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 concerning humanitarian aid. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.  
***An observer from the European Parliament shall take part in the***

### **Amendment 53**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 25 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in **Articles 7(2) and 9** shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of 7 years from the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

*Amendment*

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in **Article 7(2), Articles 9 and 18a and Article 21(4)** shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of 7 years from the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

### **Amendment 54**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 26 – paragraph 5 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council:  
(a) an interim evaluation report on the results obtained and the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of this Regulation during the first three years of its implementation no later than **31 December 2017**;

*Amendment*

5. The Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council:  
(a) an interim evaluation report on the results obtained and the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the implementation of this Regulation, **including on the impact of EU aid volunteers in the humanitarian aid sector and the cost-effectiveness of the programme**, during the first three years of its implementation no later than **mid-2017**;

**Amendment 55**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 27 – paragraph 1 a and 1 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.***

***It shall apply from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2020.***

Or. fr

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### **1. Background and general remarks**

On 19 September 2012, the Commission adopted a proposal for a regulation establishing the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps - EU Aid Volunteers, as provided for by Article 214(5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Its objective is to express the Union's humanitarian values and solidarity with people in need, through the promotion of an effective and visible European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps, which contributes to strengthening the Union's capacity to respond to humanitarian crises and to building the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities in third countries.

The proposal builds on the 2010 Communication 'How to express EU citizens' solidarity through volunteering: First reflections on a European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps'.

Your rapporteur welcomes the Commission's approach, in that it has made this initiative complementary to existing structures and organisations and has avoided duplication of effort.

It may also be welcomed that the actions of the Corps are to be guided by humanitarian principles (the European Humanitarian Aid Consensus) and that deployment is to be based on needs identified on the ground.

The corps will fill the gaps which currently exist in humanitarian volunteer work, and will also help to cultivate public awareness and the idea of European citizenship.

Solidarity is a fundamental value of the Union, and volunteering is a practical and visible expression of that solidarity. The Union has to ensure adequate humanitarian aid in the face of the increased number and magnitude of humanitarian crises. Volunteers can enhance the EU's humanitarian aid operations.

Some humanitarian partners have expressed doubts about the initiative, and more specifically about the genuine added value which the corps will bring to the EU's humanitarian action and about its financing.

Your rapporteur supports the initiative as a whole, and endorses the principles and objectives indicated by the Commission in its proposal. However, certain provisions of the proposal for a regulation remain very vague and should be supplemented and clarified. Your rapporteur therefore suggests several amendments, particularly to ensure that the proposal possesses genuine added value.

In preparing the draft report, account has been taken of the lessons learned from the various pilot projects carried out in the past or still under way which are linked to the proposal.

## **2. Main aspects of the draft report**

### **(a) Scope, objectives and general principles:**

EU aid volunteers will be deployed in humanitarian aid operations in third countries in response to man-made crises or natural disasters.

Your rapporteur proposes that contexts in which armed conflicts or internal disturbances are taking place should be explicitly excluded, to ensure the safety and security of the volunteers.

In disaster situations, the volunteers should be involved in particular – by means of their contribution to enhancing the Union's capacity to respond to humanitarian crises – in preparing for disasters, reducing risks of disasters, and enhancing the link between relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD). LRRD is central to the European Parliament's thinking about the subject, particularly in the context of the negotiations on the Financing Instrument for Development Cooperation.

Your rapporteur recalls that the actions of the EU aid volunteers should be guided by the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid.

In order to pursue the objectives of the initiative, a forum for consultation and dialogue, bringing together representatives of the Commission, Member States and the sending and hosting organisations, should be established when the programme is launched.

### **(b) Added value, humanitarian needs and impact:**

The number, scope and complexity of humanitarian crises around the world have increased significantly. Humanitarian actors are therefore increasingly being called upon to provide an effective response. The needs are increasing, but financing is not keeping pace at this time of financial crises. EU aid volunteers should provide genuine added value to the EU's humanitarian action, to the host organisations and to local communities, and the deployment of the volunteers should be based on needs identified on the ground.

A series of proposed amendments are intended to place greater emphasis on these points, which are already covered in the Commission proposal. The EU Aid Volunteers Initiative should be an entirely humanitarian instrument supplementing and enhancing the EU's humanitarian action with the best possible use of the funding provided.

Deployments must meet the real needs expressed at local level by the hosting organisations. The role of the volunteers must be clearly defined.

The Commission proposes an interim evaluation report. It is intended to assess the impact of EU aid volunteers in the field of humanitarian aid and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

### **(c) Operational objectives and evaluation indicators:**

The Commission proposes operational objectives. Progress towards their achievement is to be assessed on the basis of indicators.

The proposed indicators are of an indicative nature and may be altered using the delegated acts procedure.

The proposed indicators are purely quantitative, which is not acceptable to your rapporteur. Amendments suggest inserting at least one qualitative indicator for each operational objective, so that they can be rooted in the legislative text. For example, the effective humanitarian contribution made by volunteers and the quality of the actions carried out, in particular, must be evaluated.

The Commission – acting under the delegate acts procedure – should draw up qualitative indicators relating to effectiveness, the response to needs identified on the ground and the added value provided by the volunteers.

**(d) Administrative burden and sending organisations:**

The Commission establishes a certification scheme for sending organisations.

The humanitarian aid of DG ECHO is implemented by numerous humanitarian partners, particularly NGOs on the basis of partnership framework contracts. Small NGOs face heavy administrative burdens in their relations with the Commission.

Your rapporteur considers that the Commission should devise a simple approach to the certification scheme, seeking synergies, in particular, with the partnership instruments and existing humanitarian standards.

**(e) Standards relating to volunteers:**

The Commission is to adopt standards relating to the identification, selection, training and deployment of volunteers. It is important that these standards should be formulated in the light of existing standards and programmes, in a spirit of coherence and of capitalisation on experiences and practices.

Your rapporteur considers that candidate volunteers should be identified and selected on the basis of specific skills and know-how. Identification and selection should be so performed as to ensure diversity of profiles and skills among the young people and experts, in response to specific needs.

The training programme drawn up by the Commission must be based on existing standards and prepared in partnership with specialised institutions. Your rapporteur proposes that the European training programme drawn up in this way should be carried out in close cooperation with these same specialised organisations.

In order to involve sending organisations in training, they should cooperate in assessing the degree of readiness of candidate volunteers.

Your rapporteur also proposes that the context of deployment should take into account the skills and language knowledge of volunteers.

**(f) Acknowledgement of volunteers' experience and recognition of their commitment:**

Your rapporteur proposes a series of amendments concerning this point.

Firstly, after their first deployment, EU aid volunteers may be recognised as certified EU aid volunteers. These certified volunteers may be entered in the register provided for and administered by the Commission.

In addition, the Commission will support actions to acknowledge the experience and recognise the commitment of volunteers with a view to acknowledging attainments which are recognised in professional circles.

**(g) Cooperation with other countries:**

Your rapporteur proposes deleting the clause permitting citizens and organisations from partner countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy to participate in the activities of the EU aid volunteers.

Although the Commission proposes that such cooperation should be funded by the countries concerned, your rapporteur considers the programme to be a European one, which advances the idea of European citizenship.

**3. Horizontal elements relating to the financing instruments for EU external action (2014-2020): committee procedure and exercise of powers delegated to the Commission**

For the purpose of implementing certain provisions in the proposal for a regulation, the Commission proposes using the committee procedure or the delegated acts procedure, as the case may be.

Your rapporteur considers that, in general, the Commission has respected the prerogatives and powers assigned to the European Parliament by the Lisbon Treaty, with reference to the above procedures.

However, your rapporteur proposes establishing a general programming framework different from that proposed by the Commission, which will be consistent with the prerogatives of Parliament and with its proposals for the new Financing Instrument for Development Cooperation (2014-2020).

Two consecutive multiannual work programmes will be adopted by means of delegated acts. These documents will in particular set out the objectives pursued, the expected results, the methods of implementation and the total amount.

Annual work programmes implementing the multiannual programmes will be adopted by means of the committee procedure and will contain non-essential elements such as a description of the actions and the amount allocated to each action.

In accordance with existing legislation, your rapporteur proposes inserting that the creation of an EU trust fund, the definition of its objectives and its management and implementation should be performed using the delegated acts procedure.