



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on International Trade*

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**2009/2002(BUD)**

6.8.2009

# **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on International Trade

for the Committee on Budgets

on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2010,  
Section III - Commission  
(2009/2002(BUD))

Rapporteur: Peter Šťastný

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## SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Underlines the need for the Parliament, as budgetary authority, to monitor the use of the EU budget to fulfil the Commission's commitments, *inter alia* regarding macro-financial assistance (MFA), Industrialised Countries Instrument (ICI), trade-related assistance and in particular Aid for Trade;
2. Reiterates that MFA should be subject to strict monitoring and conditionality as the EU does not control the ways in which beneficiary countries spend the EU's general un-earmarked funds entering their general budget; regrets that MFA lacks a proper legal basis and continues to be based on *ad hoc* Council decisions for each operation; reiterates the need for a co-decided framework regulation on MFA that enhances transparency, accountability, monitoring and reporting systems;
3. Requests the Commission to supply Parliament in due time with information concerning MFA programming and the expected timetable for the Commission's MFA-related proposals; insists that the Council invite Parliament to deliver its opinion on the Commission's MFA-related proposals by way of the "urgency procedure" only when absolutely necessary and after due justification;
4. Calls on the Commission to present, in advance of Parliament's second reading, detailed information (including the figures) on the budget lines which are used for financing ICI (in addition to the administrative budget line 19 01 04 08);
5. Calls on the Commission to present, in advance of Parliament's second reading, detailed information (including the figures) on the budget lines which are used for financing trade-related assistance and Aid for Trade (in addition to the administrative budget line 20 02 03), and the complete figures for all Aid for Trade financing coming from EU budget;
6. Asks the Commission to inform the Parliament of the use of European Development Fund (EDF) funds to promote trade-related assistance and Aid for Trade as the EDF is still not included in the EU budget despite of repeated demands by the Parliament;
7. Expresses its concern regarding the lack of clarity on the way Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) will be financed; calls on the Commission to provide detailed information regarding what financial assistance it will provide to ACP countries to adapt to the economic changes following the signing of EPAs;
8. Asks the Commission to submit to the Parliament and the Council as soon as possible after each financial year an annual report assessing the implementation in the Aid for Trade area, containing specific information on the history of the measures financed, the involvement of the relevant partners, and the implementation of the pledges, budget commitments and payments, broken down by country, region and category of assistance;

requests that the report also assess progress made in mainstreaming trade into aid programming and the results achieved with the assistance, using, as far as possible, specific and measurable indicators of its role in meeting the Aid for Trade objectives;

9. Reiterates that it is necessary to provide concrete financial support for pharmaceutical-related technology transfer and capacity-building for developing countries and local production of pharmaceuticals in all developing countries, especially least developed countries (LDCs), in discharging the obligations laid down in Article 66(2) of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS);
10. Points out that it is necessary to increase funding for research and development in the field of poverty-related, tropical and neglected diseases with the participation of public-private partnerships and other possible funding ventures, and to support research institutes willing to cooperate in public health initiatives dedicated to these efforts and pursuing research into and development of, medicines of special relevance to developing countries.