



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Development*

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**2011/2020(BUD)**

22.9.2011

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Budgets

on Parliament's position on the 2012 Draft Budget as modified by the Council-  
all sections  
(2011/2020(BUD))

Rapporteur: 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 in its motion for a resolution:

1. Recalls that heading 4 of the Union budget is chronically underfunded and points out that, without new funding sources, Member States will not be able to meet their commitments regarding the Millennium Development Goals;
2. Insists that any spending to address new political challenges, whether climate change or the ‘Arab spring’, must be funded with additional resources and not by reallocating existing development funds;
3. Stresses that development budgets must target poverty reduction; insists that all cooperation with developing countries which does not meet the criteria of the OECD development assistance committee must be funded through other instruments than those foreseen for development cooperation;
4. Calls for the establishment of a specific cooperation instrument for the overseas countries and territories – separate from the European Development Fund – bearing in mind that the aim of their association with the European Union, as provided for by Article 198 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, is not to combat poverty but to promote economic and social development and establish close economic relations between the territories concerned and the Union as a whole;
5. Is firmly opposed to the Council’s proposed EUR 70 million cut to the financing instrument for development cooperation;
6. Supports the creation of a tax on financial transactions at the global level to fund global public goods, including poverty eradication, and stresses that innovative financing should be additional to, and not as a substitute for, existing development aid;
7. Points out that, of all the Millennium Development Goals, the health-related goals are the most off-target, and is therefore opposed to the Council’s proposed cuts to health budget lines;
8. Notes that work financed through the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria have produced encouraging and rapid results and wishes to restore its funding through the Union budget to the level of the previous year;
9. Regrets the Council’s proposed 33% cut in the budget line for European Neighbourhood and Partnership financial assistance to Palestine, the peace process and UNRWA and calls for an increase so as not to jeopardise UNRWA’s ability to pay its large numbers of staff working in health, education and social sectors;
10. Rejects the Council’s planned cuts to the budget for food security and humanitarian aid at a time when the world is facing extremely serious food and humanitarian crises;
11. Insists on restoring budget lines for administrative spending, since they are necessary for

the Union to uphold its external policy commitments and for its multiannual programmes to be fully and effectively implemented.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	22.9.2011
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 19 -: 1 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Thijs Berman, Michael Cashman, Corina Crețu, Véronique De Keyser, Charles Goerens, Catherine Grèze, András Gyürk, Filip Kaczmarek, Franziska Keller, Maurice Ponga, Birgit Schnieber-Jastram, Michèle Striffler, Alf Svensson, Eleni Theoharous
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Santiago Fisas Ayxela, Martin Kastler, Cristian Dan Preda, Judith Sargentini
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	María Irigoyen Pérez, Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler