



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Development

2012/2059(DEC)

6.11.2012

OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on the European Court of Auditors: Special Report No. 1/2012 – Effectiveness of European Union development aid for food security in Sub-Saharan Africa (2012/2059(DEC))

Rapporteur: Enrique Guerrero Salom

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses the imperative need to intensify efforts to improve food security in the face of continued hunger, malnutrition and vulnerability in many sub-Saharan African and other developing countries and the hugely insufficient progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal 1 to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
2. Agrees with the Court of Auditors that a greater focus on food security is necessary in the EU's development assistance;
3. Supports the Court of Auditors recommendation for a structured assessment of the food security situation in each country and systematic consideration of the potential scope for relevant EU support during the EEAS and the Commission's programming of EU development aid; calls on DEVCO to ensure the incorporation of data and analyses from ECHO's field offices and from other sources and to help ensure that effective early warning systems for food insecurity are in place; also calls on the EEAS to help ensure that corresponding government capacity is built to run these systems in a sustainable manner, and that prevention strategies are implemented, fostering the resilience of the most vulnerable;
4. Notes that after the 2008 food crisis, which severely affected different sub-Saharan African countries, food prices have gradually returned to similar levels and that volatility and speculation are likely to continue; calls on the Commission to elaborate response strategies for different contingencies, making any relevant proposals; calls on the Commission to also take note of the fact that the gradually rising food prices is part of a marked, long-term upward trend, rather than a short-term shock and consequently, it requires a longer-term holistic strategy directly linked to the broader development goals; calls for the inclusion in the 2014-2020 MFF of a new Food Facility or a comparable mechanism ensuring the EU's ability to swiftly respond to new food crises using similar funds, given the predictability of new food crises and the increased volatility of food prices; believes that financial speculation exacerbates food price volatility and that it is therefore also necessary to take effective action against such speculation, including through regulation and control of derivative markets;
5. Remains convinced of the importance of scaling up the nutrition aspect of development aid for food security and requests the Commission to provide a written report on its progress on this by spring 2013;
6. Welcomes the Commission's intention to continuously improve the targeting of beneficiaries and to fix realistic, precise and measurable objectives for its food security interventions;
7. Shares the Court of Auditors' conclusions on the need to increase small- and medium-sized farmers' access to information and education, as well as to credits; agrees also on the

need to invest in post-harvest infrastructure; believes that build-up at different levels of adequate food reserves should be facilitated;

8. Notes that the overall impact of EU action on food security is also determined by the EU's policies on agriculture, fisheries, energy and trade; stresses the need to ensure Policy Coherence for Development, in accordance with article 208 TFEU, and that these policies should embody and comply with the "do no harm" principle.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	5.11.2012
Result of final vote	+: 24 -: 0 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Thijs Berman, Ricardo Cortés Lastra, Véronique De Keyser, Leonidas Donskis, Charles Goerens, Mikael Gustafsson, Eva Joly, Miguel Angel Martínez Martínez, Gay Mitchell, Norbert Neuser, Bill Newton Dunn, Maurice Ponga, Birgit Schnieber-Jastram, Michèle Striffler, Alf Svensson, Eleni Theoharous, Ivo Vajgl, Iva Zanicchi
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Kriton Arsenis, Philippe Boulland, Edvard Kožušník, Bart Staes
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Edit Bauer, Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa