

**Question for written answer E-012567/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Georgios Stavrakakis (S&D)

Subject: Payment levels as of 31 October 2013

After the approval of Draft Amending Budget No 6/2012, the Commission, at the request of the Budgetary Authority, put forward Draft Amending Budget No 2/2013 amounting to EUR 11.2 billion. This will allow all legal payment obligations left pending at the end of 2012, as well as those arising before the end of 2013, to be covered in this year's budget.

At the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) meeting of 14 May 2013, a political agreement was reached to provide the extra funding for the 2013 Budget in two tranches, the first one amounting to EUR 7.3 billion. The ministers agreed to come back to the issue later in the year. However, there has been no formal commitment regarding the remaining EUR 3.9 billion of Draft Amending Budget 2/2013.

After the political agreement reached by the institutions on 27 June 2013 regarding the 2014-2020 multiannual financial framework, ECOFIN approved the EUR 7.3 billion top-up for the 2013 EU Budget on 9 July 2013 and committed to take all necessary additional steps to ensure that the Union's obligations for 2013 are fully honoured. In this respect, on the basis of a proposal to be made by the Commission in early autumn based on the most up-to-date estimates of payment appropriations, the Council commits to make a decision, without delay, on a further draft amending budget to avoid any shortfall in justified payment appropriations. On 26 September, the Commission issued Draft Amending Budget No 8/2013 for the remaining EUR 3.9 billion.

Taking all of the above into consideration and given the fact that the payment levels for the 2013 EU Budget are EUR 5 billion lower than the Commission's estimates for payment needs in its 2013 Draft Budget, could the Commission provide detailed information on the level of payments received by 31 October 2013? Specifically, could the Commission provide information on the payments received in the months of January to October 2013 inclusive, broken down by Member State and policy area/programme?

Moreover, could the Commission provide a comparison of Member States' payment forecasts and the actual payments that have taken place so far this year in the framework of the 2013 EU Budget, broken down by Member State and policy area/programme?