

**Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: Belgium – textile industry; Ireland – Dell**

**European Parliament resolution of 25 November 2009 on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (COM(2009)0515 – C7-0208/2009 – 2009/2135(BUD))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Council (COM(2009)0515 – C7-0208/2009),
  - having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management<sup>1</sup> (IIA of 17 May 2006), and in particular point 28 thereof,
  - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 on establishing the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund<sup>2</sup> (EGF Regulation),
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets and the opinion of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (A7-0044/2009),
- A. whereas the European Union has set up the appropriate legislative and budgetary instruments to provide additional support to workers who suffer from the consequences of major structural changes in world trade patterns and to assist their reintegration into the labour market,
- B. whereas the Union's financial assistance to workers made redundant should be dynamic and made available as quickly and efficiently as possible, in accordance with the Joint Declaration of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission adopted during the conciliation meeting on 17 July 2008, and having due regard for the IIA of 17 May 2006 in respect of the adoption of decisions to mobilise the Fund,
- C. whereas Belgium and Ireland have requested assistance in respect of cases concerning redundancies in the textiles sector in the Belgian regions of East and West Flanders<sup>3</sup> and Limburg<sup>4</sup>, and in the computer manufacturing industry in the Irish counties of Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary, as well as the city of Limerick<sup>5</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 139, 14.6.2006, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 406, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> EGF/2009/004 BE/Oost en West Vlaanderen textiles.

<sup>4</sup> EGF/2009/005 BE/Limburg textiles.

<sup>5</sup> EGF/2009/008 IE/Dell.

- D. whereas both applications have fulfilled the eligibility criteria set up by the EGF Regulation,
- E. whereas in the case of the Irish application, supplementary information from the Commission has been requested by the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs,
1. Requests the institutions involved to make the necessary efforts to accelerate the mobilisation of the EGF;
  2. Recalls the institutions' commitment to ensure a smooth and rapid procedure for the adoption of the decisions on the mobilisation of the Fund, providing one-off, time-limited individual support geared to helping workers who have suffered redundancies as a result of globalisation;
  3. Stresses that the European Union should use all its means to face the consequences of the global economic and financial crisis; emphasises that in this respect the EGF can play a crucial role in the reintegration of the workers made redundant into the labour market;
  4. Stresses that, in accordance with Article 6 of the EGF Regulation, it should be ensured that the EGF supports the reintegration of the individual redundant workers into employment; reiterates that assistance from the EGF shall not replace actions which are the responsibility of companies by virtue of national law or collective agreements, nor measures restructuring companies or sectors;
  5. Reminds the Commission, in the context of mobilising the EGF, not to systematically transfer payment appropriations from the European Social Fund, since the EGF was created as a separate specific instrument with its own objectives and deadlines;
  6. Recalls that the functioning and the added value of the EGF should be evaluated in the context of the general assessment of the programmes and other various instruments created by the IIA of 17 May 2006, within the process of the 2007-2013 multiannual financial framework budget review;
  7. Notes that the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs has assessed the Commission's proposal and has no objections to raise in the case of Belgian applications, but has requested clarifications from the Commission in respect of the Irish application regarding the Dell case; draws attention, however, to paragraphs 1 to 6 of the opinion by that committee;
  8. Will evaluate the consequences of the Commission replies before taking its final decision both on the legal and budgetary instrument;
  9. Expects the Commission to take stock of the current difficulties and to present from now on its proposals for decisions on the mobilisation of the EGF in separate documents: one proposal for a decision per Member State application;
  10. Approves the decision annexed to this resolution;
  11. Instructs its President to sign the decision with the President of the Council and arrange for its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union;
  12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution, including its annex, to the Council and the Commission.

## ANNEX

### DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 25 November 2009

**on mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management<sup>1</sup>, and in particular point 28 thereof,

having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 establishing the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 12(3) thereof,

having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) was established to provide additional support to redundant workers who suffer from the consequences of major structural changes in world trade patterns and to assist them with their reintegration into the labour market.
- (2) The scope of the EGF was broadened for applications submitted from 1 May 2009 to include support for workers made redundant as a result of the global financial and economic crisis.
- (3) The Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 allows the mobilisation of the EGF within the annual ceiling of EUR 500 million.
- (4) Belgium submitted two applications to mobilise the EGF, in respect of redundancies in the textiles sector, on 5 May 2009. These applications comply with the requirements for determining the financial contributions as laid down in Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006, therefore the Commission proposes to deploy an amount of EUR 9 198 874.
- (5) Ireland submitted an application to mobilise the EGF, in respect of redundancies in the

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 139, 14.6.2006, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 406, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

computer manufacturing industry, on 29 June 2009. This application complies with the requirements for determining the financial contributions as laid down in Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006, therefore the Commission proposes to deploy an amount of EUR 14 831 050.

- (6) The EGF should, therefore, be mobilised in order to provide a financial contribution for the applications submitted by Belgium and Ireland.

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

For the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2009, the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund shall be mobilised to provide the sum of EUR 24 029 924 in commitment and payment appropriations.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Strasbourg, 25 November 2009

*For the European Parliament*  
*The President*

*For the Council*  
*The President*