

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(81) 812 final

Brussels, 14 January 1982

COMMISSION COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL
CONCERNING EMERGENCY FOOD AID
FOR THE REFUGEES IN SOMALIA
THROUGH THE UNHCR

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1. Explanatory memorandum

The UNHCR has requested that the Community grant emergency food aid in the form of 1 000 t of sugar for the refugees in Somalia.

Despite a drop in the number of refugees in Somalia, there are still about 700 000 people in the refugee camps and their food supply situation is still a matter for concern.

The refugees' food requirements for the first quarter of 1982 have not yet been covered, particularly in the case of sugar, stocks of which are due to run out in the next few weeks.

2. Proposal

It is proposed that the Commission take the measures required to allocate emergency food aid of 1 000 t of sugar to the UNHCR for its work in Somalia.

The 1 000 t of sugar will be distributed free of charge in the refugee camps and will cover the 700 000 refugees' sugar requirements for about one month. It will be delivered CIF port of unloading.

Given the urgency of these requirements, the aid may have to be mobilized on the world market.

3. Financing

This aid will be charged against item 9.2.2.1 of Amending Budget n° 1/1981, adopted on 17 September, which makes provision for the allocation of 1 000 t of sugar as food aid to the UNHCR.

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The cost of the operation, which can be estimated at 0.40 million ECU at world prices and 0.60 million ECU at internal prices, does not involve any expenditure for the Community over and above that already approved in Amending Budget No 1/1981.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, the Commission requests that the Council give its agreement to the operation described above.