

REVIEW OF G-24 AID TO YUGOSLAVIA

On the eve of today's ministerial meeting in Geneva on humanitarian aid for victims of the conflict in former Yugoslavia, the G-24 issued the following communique in Brussels.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE GROUP OF 24 ON COORDINATED ASSISTANCE TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

1. The Group of 24 (G-24) held a special meeting on humanitarian assistance to the refugees and displaced persons of the former Yugoslavia at senior official level July 27 in Brussels under the chairmanship of Mr. Jean-Louis Cadieux, Deputy Director General for External Relations of the EC Commission. The meeting was attended by representatives of UNHCR, ICRC, UNICEF, IOM, IFRC and the Secretary of the intergovernmental consultations.
2. The G-24 expressed their deep concern about the ongoing fighting on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. They strongly condemned the continuing violence and in particular the actions directed against the civilian population. They especially condemned the forced expulsion of ethnic groups. In this context they recalled the declarations of the G-7 of July 7, 1992 and of the EC General Affairs Council of July 20, 1992.

The tragic and unacceptable humanitarian situation which exists and may well worsen in all regions of former Yugoslavia and in particular in Bosnia and Hercegovina can only be overcome by respecting the relevant UN resolutions and the establishment of a durable peace. The G-24 called upon all parties involved in former Yugoslavia to implement immediately concrete measures which show their commitment to peace. They supported the strenuous efforts of the UN and the EC conference to restore peace.

3. The G-24 reviewed the current situation of the refugees, displaced persons and other victims. They noted that, pursuant to recent UNHCR sources, in Croatia 598,000 persons are concerned, in Slovenia 70,000, in Bosnia-Hercegovina 1,311,000, in Serbia 382,500, in Montenegro 48,500, in the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia 31,000, and in areas protected by the United Nations 69,000 persons. In addition, a considerable number of refugees has been received on a temporary basis by European countries of which: Germany, 200,000; Austria 50,000; Hungary 50,000; Sweden 44,200; Switzerland 17,500; Turkey 15,000; Italy 11,000 persons and about 35,000 in other countries. The G-24 called upon international solidarity to solve the refugee problem and appealed to other potential host countries to give their urgent attention to accept temporary refugees from former Yugoslavia.
4. The needs for food and medicine of the increasing number of refugees, displaced persons and other victims, totalling 2.5 million persons on, and 420,000 persons outside the territory of former Yugoslavia, require further significant financial and physical support. For the winter, a special effort will be necessary to provide the refugees and displaced persons with shelter and other emergency needs (heating, food, medicines and drinking water). All participants are determined to respond to these needs in a manner corresponding to the

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maximum of their ability. The urgently needed resources should be allocated in areas closest to the original place of residence and should be directed to wherever and for whatever purpose it is most urgently needed. Coordinated action should also be continued towards the gradual return of temporary refugees and displaced persons.

5. The G-24 took note of the reports presented by the various international organizations, bilateral donors and the EC Commission.

They expressed their satisfaction that the international community has rapidly made available sufficient aircraft for the airlift to Sarajevo coordinated by the UNHCR.

The G-24 welcomed the efforts of the EC Commission to provide information permitting a joint analysis of the needs and to establish a full inventory of contributions, in cooperation with the members of the G-24 and the international organizations. They asked the Commission to continue these tasks in order to increase transparency and to avoid duplication.

6. The G-24 expressed their gratitude for all contributions for humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons in former Yugoslavia made to date. A special humanitarian effort has been made by the republics on the territory of former Yugoslavia. The G-24 encouraged these parties not to reduce their efforts and affirmed their support for them. They noted also the efforts made by the G-24 and neighboring countries to receive refugees.

The G-24 welcomed the new pledges for US\$254 million (203 MECU). In addition to the US\$217 million (174 MECU) already committed earlier. Total pledges and commitments (see table in annex) now reach US\$470 million (377 MECU). Other countries contributed as well: it is envisaged to associate them to the G-24 coordinated process on an ad hoc basis.

The UNHCR and the ICRC have distributed the bulk of these contributions.

7. The G-24 took note of the information on the international meeting on emergency assistance aid for refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina in Ljubljana on June 28-29, 1992 and they welcomed the close cooperation between the "Vienna/Zagreb/Ljubljana" process and the G-24.

They called upon the Commission as the chairman of the G-24, and the UNHCR, in executing their respective mandates, to develop their already excellent working relations in order to complement their actions.

8. They welcomed the initiative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Madame Ogata, to convene an international meeting on humanitarian aid for victims of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, to be held, at ministerial level, on July 29, 1992 in Geneva. This international meeting will bring together, on an open-ended and informal basis, all governments concerned and other interested parties.

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MECU = Million European Currency Units
UNHCR = UN High Commissioner for Refugees
ICRC = International Committee of the Red Cross
UNICEF = UN International Children's Emergency Fund
IOM = International Organization for Migration

THE G-24

	Committed by 7.1.92	Pledged after 7.1.92	Total 7.27.92
<u>Non-European Community Members</u>			
Australia	400	200	600
Austria	16,500	1,300	17,800
Canada	4,400	1,100	5,500
Finland	700	1,300	2,000
Iceland	0	0	0
Japan	800	1,100	1,900
New Zealand	0	100	100
Norway	2,000	2,600	4,600
Sweden	10,500	1,800	12,300
Switzerland	10,500	0	10,500
Turkey	600	1,500	2,100
USA	36,000	15,000	51,000
Total	82,400	26,000	108,400
<u>European Community Members</u>			
Belgium	900	600	1,500
Denmark	5,800	700	6,500
France	11,200	12,700	23,900
Germany	28,600	43,300	71,900
Greece	100	200	300
Ireland	0	200	200
Italy	13,000	16,000	29,000
Italy	1,400	600	2,000
Luxembourg	6,300	1,100	7,400
Netherlands	0	200	200
Portugal	0	800	800
Spain	5,900	1,900	7,800
UK			
Total	73,200	78,300	151,500
<u>EC Budget Total</u>	61,700	150,000	211,700
<u>Grand Total</u>	217,300	254,300	471,600

Figures are in thousands of US dollars

