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EC LAUNCHES NEW RELIEF OPERATION IN SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

The EC Commission has launched a new \$10 million food aid program for refugees in the former Yugoslavia, raising to \$350 million the European Community's total contributions to international humanitarian aid efforts there since September 1991.

The new aid program will deliver over the next two months some 325,000 parcels of basic food and sanitary supplies to host families sheltering refugees in the former Yugoslav republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

The parcels, which are intended to help host families sustain their effort, are expected to benefit over half-a-million refugees. Each parcel weighs 15 kilograms (approximately 33 pounds) and contains vegetable oil, powdered milk, dried yeast, feta cheese, pate, sugar and toilet soap. Deliveries of the food parcels are already underway.

The program is the first direct operation in these republics of the recently set-up European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) and is being carried out in close cooperation with the United Nations High Commission on Refugees and with the Red Cross organizations of both Serbia and Montenegro.

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