Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: redundancies in the wind turbine manufacturing industry in Denmark

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PURPOSE: to mobilise the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) in respect of redundancies in the wind turbine manufacturing industry in Denmark.

PROPOSED ACT: Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council.

CONTENT: the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) was established by Council Regulation No 1927/2006 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.

The Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 on budgetary discipline allows for the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) through a flexibility mechanism, within the annual ceiling of EUR 500 million over and above the relevant headings of the financial framework.

The Commission services have carried out a thorough examination of the application submitted by Denmark to mobilise the EGF. The main elements of the assessment are as follows:

Denmark: **EGF/2010/017 DK/Midtjylland Machinery**: on 11 May 2010, Denmark submitted application EGF/2010/017 DK/Midtjylland Machinery for a financial contribution from the EGF, following redundancies in 6 enterprises operating in the NACE Revision 2 Division 28 ('Manufacture of machinery and equipment')in the NUTS II region of Midtjylland (DK04) in Denmark. The application was supplemented by additional information up to 21 March 2011.

In order to establish the link between the redundancies and major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation, Denmark argues that the wind turbine manufacturing industry in the EU, which is included in NACE Revision 2 Division 28 ('Manufacture of machinery and equipment'), has been seriously affected by changes in world trade patterns, in particular a significant reduction of the EU market share.

Amid a dynamic global growth of the sector, Europe's share in total capacity was reduced from 65.5% in 2006 to 47.9% in 2009.

In addition, the new economic context as a result of the financial and economic crisis negatively affected the EU wind industry in 2009. As a result, the Danish wind industry experienced a sharp drop in employment in that year, as well as a drop in turnover.

Denmark submitted this application under the intervention criteria of Article 2(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006, which requires at least 500 redundancies over a nine-month period in enterprises operating in the same NACE Revision 2 Division in one region or two contiguous regions at NUTS II level in a Member State. The application cites 813 redundancies in six enterprises operating in the NACE Revision 2 Division 28 ('Manufacture of machinery and equipment')in the NUTS II region of Midtjylland (DK04)

during the nine-month reference period from 6 June 2009 to 6 March 2010. All of these redundancies were calculated in accordance with the third indent of the second paragraph of Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006.

After a thorough examination of this application, the Commission has concluded in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006 that the conditions for a financial contribution under this Regulation are met.

On the basis of the application from France, the proposed contribution from the EGF to the coordinated package of personalised services is **EUR 3 944 606**, representing 65% of the total cost.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was carried out.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: considering the maximum possible amount of a financial contribution from the EGF under Article 10(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006, as well as the scope for reallocating appropriations, the Commission proposes to mobilise the EGF for the total amount referred above, to be allocated under heading 1a of the financial framework.

The proposed amount of financial contribution will leave more than 25 % of the maximum annual amount earmarked for the EGF available for allocations during the last four months of the year, as required by Article 12(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006.

By presenting this proposal to mobilise the EGF, the Commission initiates the simplified trialogue procedure, as required by Point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006, with a view to securing the agreement of the two arms of the budgetary authority on the need to use the EGF and the amount required. The Commission invites the first of the two arms of the budgetary authority that reaches agreement on the draft mobilisation proposal, at appropriate political level, to inform the other arm and the Commission of its intentions. In case of disagreement by either of the two arms of the budgetary authority, a formal trialogue meeting will be convened.

The Commission presents separately a transfer request in order to enter in the 2011 budget specific commitment appropriations, as required in Point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006.

As a reinforcement of the EGF budget line 04.0501 by EUR 50 000 000 is foreseen through AB2/2011, this budget line will be used to cover the amount of EUR 3 944 606 needed for the present application.