Amending budget 5/2017: European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD); Emergency Aid Reserve (EAR)

2017/2135(BUD) - 12/10/2017 - Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 1st reading

The Committee on Budgets adopted the report by Jens GEIER (S&D, DE) on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 5/2017 of the European Union for the financial year 2017 providing the financing for the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) and increasing the Emergency Aid Reserve (EAR) further to the revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework regulation (MFF).

The committee recommended that the European Parliament approve the Council's position on draft amending budget No 5/2017. This draft:

- **provides EUR 275 million in commitment and payment appropriations for the EFSD**, to be covered in full by a mobilisation of the Flexibility instrument, given the absence of margin under the commitment ceiling of Heading 4 (Global Europe);
- **provides at the same time for the reduction by the amount of EUR 275 million** of the payment appropriations within the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) under Heading 3 (Security and Citizenship), due to an expected under-implementation caused by a late adoption of the legal bases and delay in programming;
- **provides for an additional EUR 22.8 million (in current prices) for the EAR in commitment appropriations** reflecting the mid-term revision of the MFF regulation.

Draft amending budget No 5/2017 is accompanied by a proposal for a decision on the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to provide the financing for the EFSD for an amount of EUR 275 million in commitment and payment appropriations in Heading 4.

Members **welcomed the adoption and entry into force of the European Fund for Sustainable Development** and called for its early implementation. They welcomed the fact that the mid-term revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework allows for the financing of the EFSD through an increased Flexibility Instrument, while also increasing the size of the EAR.

On the other hand, Members **deplored the low implementation of the AMIF and the Internal Security Fund** (ISF) by the Member States. They called on the Member States to respect their political agreements and to do their utmost within their competences to reflect the importance of this Union priority.