## Basic information

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|---|---|
| **2008/2321(ACI)**<br><br>ACI - Interinstitutional agreement procedure | Procedure completed |
| Mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument: facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries<br><br>**Subject**<br><br>6.30 Development cooperation<br>6.50 Emergency, food, humanitarian aid, aid to refugees, Emergency Aid Reserve<br>8.70.60 Previous annual budgets<br>8.70.70 Flexibility instrument | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| BUDG Budgets | BÖGE Reimer (PPE-DE) | 20/09/2004 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| DEVE Development | The committee decided not to give an opinion. | 08/12/2008 |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| General Affairs | 2914 | 2008-12-08 |

### European Commission

| Commission DG | Commissioner |
|---|---|
| Budget | GRYBAUSKAITĖ Dalia |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 02/12/2008 | Non-legislative basic document published | COM(2008)0833 | Summary |
| 02/12/2008 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 10/12/2008 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A6-0493/2008 | |
| 15/12/2008 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 18/12/2008 | Decision by Parliament | T6-0620/2008 | Summary |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 18/12/2008 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 23/01/2009 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

## Technical information

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|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 2008/2321(ACI) |
| **Procedure type** | ACI - Interinstitutional agreement procedure |
| **Procedure subtype** | Mobilisation of funds |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | BUDG/6/70336 |

## Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | | A6-0493/2008 | 10/12/2008 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | | T6-0620/2008 | 18/12/2008 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Non-legislative basic document | COM(2008)0833 | 02/12/2008 | Summary |

## Additional information

| Source | Document | Date |
|---|---|---|
| European Commission | EUR-Lex | |

## Final act

Decision 2009/0045
OJ L 019 23.01.2009, p. 0049 Summary

# Mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument: facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries

2008/2321(ACI) - 18/12/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted, by 540 votes to 16 with 13 abstentions, a resolution approving the proposal for a decision to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to finance a new facility for rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.

The report had been tabled for consideration in plenary by Reimer **BÖGE** (EPP-ED, DE) on behalf of the Committee on Budgets.

To recall, this facility was initially envisaged to be financed from the margin of heading 2 of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), however, this approach was rejected both by the European Parliament and the Council.

At the conciliation meeting of 21 November 2008 (see the amended draft budget BUD/2008/2026), the two branches of the budgetary authority finally agreed to finance the "Food Facility" through an optimal combination of the Instrument of Flexibility, the Emergency Aid Reserve and redeployment within heading 4 from the Instrument for Stability. The Flexibility Instrument should be mobilised for an amount of EUR 420 million in 2009.

In parallel, MEPs regret the near systematic mobilisation of this instrument to finance additional needs in heading 4 of the financial perspectives (twice in three years of the implementation of the IIA). This shows that the there is a persistent problem of the funds available under the ceilings of certain headings in the MFF being insufficient, notably in heading 4. This shows that the insistence of the European Parliament on having this kind of instrument with such characteristics as it has - notably the possibility of "carry over" of non-utilised funds - in the IIA was well founded, despite the resistance of several Member States.

Parliament therefore welcomes the agreement reached during the conciliation on **the use of the Flexibility Instrument in favour of the "Food Facility" for a total amount of EUR 420 million for the budget 2009**. However, Parliament does stress its concerns about the fact that heading 4 has been under permanent pressure due to its limited available margin, which necessitates repeated mobilisation of flexibility mechanisms under this heading in order to respond to urgent unforeseen situations. It calls for a thorough evaluation of the necessity to increase the amounts available under this heading in order to allow for the smooth development of long-term programmable activities in this area and secure the Union's capacity to fully play its role as a global actor in the international sphere.

# Mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument: facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries

2008/2321(ACI) - 02/12/2008 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to finance the facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.

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

CONTENT: the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 (see ACI/2004/2099)allows for the mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument to allow the financing of clearly identified expenditure which could not be financed within the limits of the ceilings available for one or more headings of the multiannual financial framework.

For budget 2009, additional expenditure, beyond the ceilings of heading 4 is required. It is therefore proposed to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument in accordance with point 27 of the Interinsitutional Agreement.

The amount of EUR 420 million is to be mobilised to finance the facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries (see COD /2008/0149).

# Mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument: facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries

2008/2321(ACI) - 18/12/2008 - Final act

PURPOSE: to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to finance a new facility for rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Decision 2009/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on mobilisation of the Flexibility Instrument in accordance with point 27 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management.

CONTENT: in accordance with the budgetary conciliation of 21 November 2008 between the two arms of the budgetary authority (see summary of draft amended budget BUD/2008/2026) and, in particular, with the Parliament’s desire to not spend the margins available under heading 2 of the financial perspective, the Parliament and the Council decided, by virtue of this Decision, to mobilise the Flexibility Instrument to complement the financing in the 2009 budget, beyond the ceilings of heading 4, of **EUR 420 million** towards the financing of the facility for a rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.