


# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	<a href="#">1999/0143(CNS)</a>	Procedure completed
Palestine, refugees: 10th EC-UNRWA Convention 1999-2001, the EC budgetary contribution prior to signature		
Subject 6.50 Emergency, food, humanitarian aid, aid to refugees, Emergency Aid Reserve		
Geographical area Palestine		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>DEVE</b> Development and Cooperation		27/07/1999
		GUE/NGL <a href="#">MORGANTINI</a> <a href="#">Luisa</a>	
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>AFET</b> Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense		
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	<a href="#">2202</a>	27/09/1999

Key events			
08/07/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0334	Summary
30/08/1999	Vote in committee		
30/08/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0010/1999</a>	
13/09/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
16/09/1999	Debate in Parliament		
16/09/1999	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0023/1999</a>	Summary
27/09/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
27/09/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
07/10/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

<b>Technical information</b>	
Procedure reference	1999/0143(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 181
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/5/12013

<b>Documentation gateway</b>					
Legislative proposal		COM(1999)0334 OJ C 021 25.01.2000, p. 0033 E	08/07/1999	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A5-0010/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 054 25.02.2000, p. 0010</a>	30/08/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0023/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 054 25.02.2000, p. 0059-0106</a>	16/09/1999	EP	Summary

<b>Additional information</b>	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

<b>Final act</b>
<a href="#">Decision 1999/660</a> <a href="#">OJ L 261 07.10.1999, p. 0036</a> Summary

## Palestine, refugees: 10th EC-UNRWA Convention 1999-2001, the EC budgetary contribution prior to signature

**PURPOSE:** approval of a new EC-UNRWA Convention regarding the Community's contribution to the UNRWA's regular programme, as well as its food aid programme. **CONTENT:** The draft agreement lays down for the period 1999-2001 the contribution of the Community to the regular budget of the UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency), and allows for the annual setting of the Community contribution to its food aid budget according to annual discussions between officials of the respective organisations and the annually determined needs of the refugee population. Under this Tenth Convention, the UNRWA is requesting a contribution of 120,82 million euros for the period 1999-2001. This sum would cover the funding of education and health programmes. These contributions may be modified by an exchange of correspondence between the parties within the period of the validity of the agreement. The Commission has borne in mind during negotiations that, at some point, UNRWA would hand over its functions to the Palestinian Authority, and even other administrations in the region. By the end of 2000, political developments regarding the refugees will be reviewed by the parties, and an evaluation of any plans UNRWA has drawn up, and, if this is the case put into effect, for the hand-over. Such a review will enable the Commission to foresee the order of magnitude of the Agency's level of contribution UNRWA may request the Community to make beyond the life of a tenth Convention. It is therefore possible that the UNRWA's financial requirements fall even during the 1999-2001 period. This could be the case, for example, if any of the Agency's functions were during the life of the Convention to be handed over, thus reducing UNRWA's recurrent costs. An article has therefore been included in the text to allow for necessary adjustments in the Community contribution under this Convention.?

## Palestine, refugees: 10th EC-UNRWA Convention 1999-2001, the EC budgetary contribution prior to signature

In adopting its report, drafted by Ms. Luisa MORGANTINI (GUE/NGL, I), on the 10th EC-UNRWA Convention concerning Palestine Refugees, the European Parliament approved the Community's contribution to this organisation by called on the European Commission to ensure that the

access of representatives of the Community (from the Parliament as well as the Council) to sites of UNRWA operations is preceded by the provision of detailed and updated information on the aspects of their financing. It also called on the Commission to forward to it and to the Council of Ministers an annual report on those UNRWA operations funded by the Community.?

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**PURPOSE** : the conclusion of the Convention between the European Community and UNRWA concerning the contribution of the Community to UNRWA's ordinary programmes as well as to its food aid programme. **COMMUNITY MEASURE** : Decision 1999/660/EC concerning the conclusion of the Convention between the European Community and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) concerning aid to refugees in the countries of the Near East, for the years 1999 to 2000. **CONTENT** : the Convention determines for the period 1999-2001 the contribution of the Community to the ordinary budget of the Relief and Works Agency of the United Nations for the refugees of Palestine (UNRWA). The contributions applied by the UNRWA under this 10th Convention amount to EUR 120,82 million from 1999 until 2001. They aim to finance health and education programmes. The amount of the contribution to the education programme rises to EUR 32,45 million in 1999, EUR 34,07 million in 2000 and EUR 35,77 million in 2001. The amount of the contribution to the health programme rises to EUR 5,88 million in 1999, EUR 6,17 million in 2000 and EUR 6,48 million in 2001. The contributions may be amended by an exchange of letters between the parties in the course of the duration of the Convention. The new Convention also foresees the annual determination of the Community's contribution to the budget for food aid to the UNRWA in nature and in financial terms based on refugees' needs evaluated each year (the budget will be distinct from those for the health and education programmes and the contribution already drawn from the European Community budget lines B7-200 - food support actions). The implementation of the food aid programme will be governed by the procedure defined by the Community Regulation 1292/96/EC. In addition, the Convention provides for regular information from UNRWA to the Community on projects financed using the Community contribution, as well as the drafting of annual reports on the implementation of the Convention. At the end of the year 2000 at the latest, the evolution of the political situation concerning refugees will be examined by the parties and there will be an evaluation of projects prepared and, where appropriate, implemented by the UNRWA, with a view to transferring, in time, a part or all of its functions to the Palestinian Authority and/or to all other competent authorities. Provisions are made with a view to ensuring the transparency of Community interventions. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : the decision will take effect on 27.09.1999 (the Convention enters into force when all the necessary procedures to this effect have been completed by the parties).?