



Brussels, 8 July 2019
(OR. en)

10926/19

FIN 476

'I' ITEM NOTE

From:	Budget Committee
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee
No. Cion doc.:	9606/19 - COM(2019) 206 final
Subject:	Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund to provide assistance to Austria, Italy and Romania – <i>Adoption</i>

1. On 22 May 2019, the Commission forwarded to the Council a proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund for a total amount of EUR 293.6 million in commitment and payment appropriations.

The objective of this proposal is to provide financial assistance to Austria (EUR 8.2 million) and Italy (EUR 277.2 million) following heavy rains, strong winds, floods and landslides in the autumn of 2018, and to Romania (EUR 8.2 million) after the summer 2018 floods.

2. The Budget Committee examined the proposal at its meetings on 24 May 2019 and was able to approve it.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to:
- advise the Council to adopt the text of the Decision on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund, as set out in the Annex;
 - agree, by unanimity, to use the written procedure for this purpose.
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DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

**on the mobilisation of the European Union Solidarity Fund to provide assistance to Austria,
Italy and Romania**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund¹, and in particular Article 4(3) thereof,

Having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 2 December 2013 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management², and in particular point 11 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Union Solidarity Fund ('the Fund') aims to enable the Union to respond in a rapid, efficient and flexible manner to emergency situations in order to show solidarity with the population of regions struck by natural disasters.
- (2) The Fund is not to exceed a maximum annual amount of EUR 500 000 000 (2011 prices), as laid down in Article 10 of Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013³.
- (3) On 7 September 2018, Romania submitted an application to mobilise the Fund, following extreme weather events provoking extensive floods.

¹ OJ L 311, 14.11.2002, p. 3.

² OJ C 373, 20.12.2013, p. 1.

³ Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1311/2013 of 2 December 2013 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 884).

- (4) On 20 December 2018, Italy submitted an application to mobilise the Fund, following extreme weather events.
- (5) On 14 January 2019, Austria submitted an application to mobilise the Fund, following extreme weather events.
- (6) The applications by Romania, Italy and Austria meet the conditions for providing a financial contribution from the Fund, as laid down in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002.
- (7) The Fund should therefore be mobilised in order to provide a financial contribution to Romania, Italy and Austria.
- (8) In order to minimise the time taken to mobilise the Fund, this Decision should apply from the date of its adoption,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

For the general budget of the Union for the financial year 2019, the European Union Solidarity Fund shall be mobilised as follows in commitment and payment appropriations:

- (a) the amount of EUR 8 192 300 shall be provided to Romania;
- (b) the amount of EUR 277 204 595 shall be provided to Italy;
- (c) the amount of EUR 8 154 899 shall be provided to Austria.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from ... [*the date of its adoption*]**.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament

For the Council

** *Date to be inserted by the Parliament before the publication in OJ.*