



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 20 February 2009

6471/09

**FIN 51
PE-L 10**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : Budget Committee
to : Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject : Proposal for transfer of appropriations No. Dec 1/2009 within Section VI - European Economic and Social Committee - of the general budget for 2009 (NCE)

1. The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) submitted to the Council proposal for transfer of appropriations No. Dec 1/2009 within Section VI - European Economic and Social Committee - of the general budget for 2009.

The purpose of the proposal is to transfer a total amount of EUR 1 000 000 from Chapter 10 0 (*Provisional appropriations*) to Item 1004 (*Travel and subsistence allowances, attendance at meetings and associated expenditure*).

2. In the 2009 budgetary procedure, EUR 1 000 000 allocated to the EESC for Item 1004 was placed in reserve by the European Parliament pending the introduction by the EESC of measures aiming at minimising cost increases related to travel and subsistence allowances and associated expenditure, related to members and delegates.

On 13 January 2009, the EESC Bureau decided to decentralise the management of this budget item and to regularly monitor the situation of the different operational budgets.

Therefore, the EESC, considering that the European Parliament's condition to lift its reserve had been satisfied and that the current level of appropriations for Item 1004 would not be sufficient to cover EESC activities in 2009, proceeded with this proposal for a transfer.

3. The European Parliament consulted the Council on the proposal for a transfer on 17 February 2009.
4. The Budget Committee examined this proposal at its meeting on 19 February 2009.
5. Following that examination, the Budget Committee agreed, by qualified majority, to suggest that the Permanent Representatives Committee advise the Council to:
 - give a favourable opinion on the proposed transfer of appropriations;
 - approve the draft letter in ANNEX to the European Parliament to that effect.

DRAFT LETTER

from: President of the Council

to: President of the European Parliament

Copy: President of the European Economic and Social Committee

Sir,

In accordance with Article 24(3) of the Financial Regulation of 25 June 2002, as amended by Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No. 1525/2007 of 17 December 2007, the European Parliament sought the Council's opinion on 17 February 2009 on a proposal for transfer of appropriations No. Dec 1/2009 concerning Section VI (European Economic and Social Committee) of the general budget for 2009.

I am pleased to inform you that the Council has given a favourable opinion on that proposal.

(Complimentary close).
