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Draft amending budget No 5/2022: Additional measures to address the consequences of the Russian war in Ukraine — Union Civil Protection Mechanism reinforcement — Reduction in payment appropriations and update of revenues — Other adjustments and technical updates

European Parliament resolution of 23 November 2022 on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 5/2022 of the European Union for the financial year 2022 — Additional measures to address the consequences of the Russian war in Ukraine, Union Civil Protection Mechanism reinforcement, Reduction in payment appropriations and update of revenues, Other adjustments and technical updates (14832/2022 — C9-0388/2022 — 2022/0318(BUD))

(2023/C 167/29)

The European Parliament,

— having regard to Article 314 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

— having regard to Article 106a of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

— having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 ([1]), and in particular Article 44 thereof,

— having regard to the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2022, as definitively adopted on 24 November 2021 ([2]),

— having regard to Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021-2027 ([3]) ('MFF Regulation'),

— having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources ([4]),

— having regard to Council Decision (EU, Euratom) 2020/2053 of 14 December 2020 on the system of own resources of the European Union and repealing Decision 2014/335/EU, Euratom ([5]),

— having regard to Draft amending budget No 5/2022, which the Commission adopted on 5 October 2022 (COM(2022)0351),

— having regard to the joint text agreed by the Conciliation Committee on 14 November 2022 on the general budget for the financial year 2023, which includes also the adoption of Draft amending budget No 5/2022,

— having regard to the position on Draft amending budget No 5/2022 which the Council adopted on 21 November 2022 and forwarded to Parliament on the same day (14832/2022 — C9-0388/2022),

— having regard to Rules 94 and 96 of its Rules of Procedure,

— having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets (A9-0280/2022),

([1]) OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1.
([2]) OJ L 45, 24.2.2022, p. 1.
([3]) OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 11.
([4]) OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 28.
([5]) OJ L 424, 15.12.2020, p. 1.

A. whereas Draft amending budget No 5/2022 covers updates on both the expenditure and revenue sides, and includes changes for Section III (Commission) and other sections;

B. whereas Draft amending budget No 5/2022 includes, but is not limited to, adjustments to address the consequences of the Russian war in Ukraine;

C. whereas Draft amending budget No 5/2022 is linked to the financing of the new European Defence Industry Reinforcement through common Procurement Act (EDIRPA), reinforcing the emergency measures under the Food Chain strand of the Single Market Programme, frontloading and reinforcing the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), reinforcing the EU contribution to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, reinforcing administrative expenditure and pensions because of high inflation, returning the amount from the reserve of the new 'ReFuelEU Aviation' to the transport line of the Connecting Europe Facility given its delayed adoption; whereas the full remaining margins in Headings 2b and 5 are fully exhausted;

D. whereas Articles 64 and 65 of the Staff Regulations aim at keeping the evolution of the purchasing power of EU civil servants in line with those of national civil servants; whereas the forecasted salary update rate to be applied retroactively as from 1 July 2022 was 2,5 % in the adopted 2022 budget (6 months impact), while the rate reflected in Draft amending budget No 5/2022 amounts to 6,9 %; whereas the final rate is set to 7,0 % in the Eurostat report on the salary update for 2022 of 24 October 2022 ([6]);

E. whereas the level of payment appropriations for the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and EU4Health are decreased by respectively EUR 775 million and EUR 129,2 million;

F. whereas Draft amending budget No 5/2022 also includes two adjustments on the revenue side, namely an update of the estimates for Traditional Own Resources (TOR) and the estimated impact of exchange rate differences; whereas the revenue surplus is estimated at EUR 3,0 billion;

G. whereas the net impact of Draft amending budget No 5/2022 on expenditure amounts to an increase of EUR 447,5 million in commitment appropriations, and a decrease of EUR 741,1 million in payment appropriations; whereas the overall impact on the revenue side (comprised of the revenue surplus and decrease in payments) is a net decrease in the GNI contributions of EUR 3 779 million;

H. whereas Parliament has repeatedly considered that a draft amending budget should have one purpose only;

1. Takes note of Draft amending budget No 5/2022 as submitted by the Commission;

2. Recalls that, due to the late adoption of the legal base for the EDIRPA, the Conciliation Committee on the general budget for the financial year 2023 agreed not to place any amount in commitment appropriations in the reserve for that purpose and not to create a corresponding budget line for the financial year 2022;

3. Highlights that the UCPM has required significant reinforcements since the start of its implementation, especially as the consequences of severe weather conditions which cause floods, fires and droughts are growing in Europe, and in order to set up a permanent firefighting fleet to combat Europe-wide forest fires; indicates, therefore, that the proposed frontloading/backloading of UCPM will have to be reassessed based on needs, notably in the context of the upcoming MFF revision;

4. Warns about the risk of an increasingly high payments backlog due to the worrying delays in programme implementation and the need to address this risk in the context of the MFF revision;

([6]) Commission Staff Working Paper 'Eurostat Report on the 2022 annual update of remuneration and pensions of EU officials', published on 24.10.2022.

5. Stresses that there is an overall decrease of EUR 3,8 billion in Member States' GNI contribution and that some Member States are benefitting from big top-ups given that their lump sum rebates are annually adjusted by the real GDP price deflator — and not on the basis of the automatic 2 % deflator set out in the MFF;

6. Reiterates that, to better respect the prerogative of the budgetary authority, the Commission should present a draft amending budget for one purpose only and refrain from combining several purposes in one draft amending budget;

7. Approves the Council position on Draft amending budget No 5/2022;

8. Instructs its President to declare that Amending budget No 5/2022 has been definitively adopted and arrange for its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*;

9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.