



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 23 September 2008 (26.09)
(OR. fr)**

13297/08

FIN 336

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : Budget Committee

to : Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion prop. : 13046/08 FIN 327 - SEC(2008) 2435

Subject : Amending Letter No 1 to the Preliminary Draft Budget for 2009

1. On 15 September 2008 the Commission submitted to the Council Amending Letter No 1 to the Preliminary Draft Budget for 2009.
2. That amending letter concerns expenditure in Section III – Commission – of the general budget, and in particular the following:
 - (a) the inclusion of an additional amount, of EUR 40 million in commitment appropriations, to support the stability and development of Kosovo;
 - (b) the inclusion of an additional amount, of EUR 139 million in commitment appropriations and EUR 180 million in payment appropriations, to support the Palestinian authority;
 - (c) the creation of a new budget article 19 06 06 ("*Consular cooperation*");

- (d) the budgetary adjustments relating to the third extension of the mandate of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to Community actions in the TEMPUS and ICI programme fields.

The Agency's establishment plan has been amended so that eight temporary agent posts can be added in 2009 for the second extension of the mandate;

- (e) the release of the appropriations which were entered in the 2009 PDB following the extension of the Executive Agency for the Public Health Programme and the Trans-European Transport Network Executive Agency.

3. The Budget Committee examined this amending letter at its meetings on 12 and 18 September 2008.
4. On the completion of its examination the Budget Committee agreed by a qualified majority, to suggest acceptance of Amending Letter No 1 to the preliminary draft budget for 2009 as proposed by the Commission. Accordingly, the commitment appropriations entered in reserve for articles 19 08 01 02 (EUR 100 million) and 22 02 02 (EUR 60 million) that appeared in the draft budget for 2009 will be deleted.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm the outcome of the proceedings of the Budget Committee and to recommend that the Council:
- establish Amending Letter No 1 to the draft budget for 2009 on the basis of the information set out in section 4 of this note;
 - instruct the Presidency to draw up the budget documents and forward them to the European Parliament.