RESOLUTION:

More transparency to EU`s aid funding instruments

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting, Helsinki, Finland on the 17th of December 2016

Recognizing that:

- The EU, together with its Member States, is projected to provide more than half of global aid for the period 2014-2020. A considerable, though unknown, amount of this aid is administered through and to NGOs.
- EU funding, involving large budgets, is highly complex, marked by direct and indirect channels, overlapping in some instances. Funding instruments are frequently established and then dismantled, reorganised, or renamed – restricting transparency and raising administration costs.
- All of ECHO's funding for humanitarian aid (approximately €1 billion per year) is administered indirectly – 46% through European NGOs that often redistribute the money to other NGOs, and 54% through international organisations, UN, or Member State agencies.
- The multiplicity of EU funding frameworks for NGOs results in "double dipping" – in which an organization is funded by more than one EU framework, often for very similar activities, for the same timeframe. [1]

Acknowledging that:

- The majority of EU funding for external aid is managed by two departments in the European Commission: Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid (DEVCO) and Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), formerly the European Community Humanitarian Aid Office with a projected budget of €82 billion for 2014-2020.

---

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/about-funding-and-procedures/sources-funding_en 2 http://ec.europa.eu/echo/funding-evaluations/funding-humanitarian-aid_en

- In regards to transparency, the sheer multiplicity of instruments and indirect funding render it difficult for the European Parliament and any other party to track funds. Institutions do not publish reports regularly or in a consistent manner.
- Reports are not published in regular intervals – the latest EIDHR (The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights) report published on the delegation's website covers grants from 2013 and onward, while the previous EIDHR report only covers 2007-2010. Although EIDHR's website sports a library of evaluations, reports and legal references, the vast majority of files are missing. [2]

YEPP calls on:

- The EU`s funding instruments to show more transparency while giving information for where aid goes, how much money is spent, and on what it is spent, helping tax payers to check that their money is being used wisely.
- The EU Commission to make it easier to track funds, and to ensure that organisations are not funded by more than one EU framework. Funding-instruments need to publish reports regularly or in a consistent manner.
- The EU agencies and institutions to publish reports regularly together and in a consistent manner including an evaluation of efficiency and transparency.

---

[2] http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/neighbourhood/pdf/key-documents/regional-south/20150915-aap-2015regional_south-financing-commission-decision-20150901.pdf 17 https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/funding/funding-instruments-programming/funding-instruments/developmentcooperation-instrument-dci_en 18 https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/index.php/Thematic_programme_NSA_LA 19 http://ec.europa.eu/youth/programme/mobility/european-voluntary-service_en.htm 20 http://ec.europa.eu/echo/what/humanitarian-aid/eu-aid-volunteers_en 21 https://europa.eu/eyd2015/en/content/eu-development-aid 22 http://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/westbank/projects/overview/index_en.htm 23 http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/israel/projects/overview/index_en.htm