TEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM - TIM

KEY FACTS

TIM OBJECTIVES

- Relieve the current socio-economic crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory
- Ensure the continued delivery of essential social public services to the Palestinian population
- Facilitate the maximum level of support by international donors and the resumption of Palestinian revenue transfers by Israel

EC CONTRIBUTION TO TIM

In 2006 the European Commission made available a total of €107.5 million to the three TIM windows. In 2007, the EC allocated an additional €100 million for Windows II and III.

Window I $- \in 10$ million for essential supplies and running costs of hospitals and health care centres:

Window II – €75 million for the uninterrupted supply of essential public services including energy utilities;

Window III – €122.5 million in support of vulnerable Palestinians, through the payment of **social allowances** to public service providers and the poor.

In addition to its support to the TIM, €12 million were allocated by the EC for technical assistance and capacity building to the Office of the President.

COOPERATION WITH DONORS

The EC, 14 EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland contribute to the TIM.

Structures and processes designed by the TIM have been tested, applied, and are ready for use by donors. The TIM identifies payment needs on the basis of established criteria and allocates donor contributions accordingly.

Monitoring mechanisms are in place to ensure that payments follow the financial flow as planned. The TIM follows up and reports on the progress of payments to the contributing donors and parties concerned.

TIM ORGANISATION

The TIM Management Unit (TIM-MU) started its work in Jerusalem on 26 June 2006. TIM-MU is a European operation with staff from the European Commission, EU Member States and experts. The TIM-MU manages the contributions from the European Commission and, in cooperation with the Netherlands Representative Office, those of EU Member States and other donors.

PALESTINIAN PARTNER

TIM direct assistance to the Palestinian people is facilitated through cooperation with Palestinian authorities. These submit data on eligible beneficiaries to the TIM for validation, audit, and control. Funds are transferred directly to the beneficiaries or to the contracted suppliers.

TIM ACHIEVEMENTS

Social Allowances

Low Income Cases scheme:

- Up to 12,000 public health care providers
- Over 65,000 public sector service providers including 6,500 pensioners

Social Hardship Cases scheme:

Over 75,000 heads of poor households

In total, over 150,000 households directly receive TIM social allowances (Window III). With an estimated household size of six, one million people have benefited from the support.

Electricity Production and Distribution

 Support for electricity production and distribution (fuel, direct support) in the West Bank and Gaza.

Emergency Fuel Programme

- Securing access to water, health care and sanitation for 1.3 million people in the Gaza Strip after the destruction of the Gaza Power Plant on 28 June 2006.
- Fuel to back-up generators of hospitals, health care centres, water and waste water facilities.

Access to Specialised Medical Care

The TIM paid referral costs to East Jerusalem hospitals for Palestinian patients in need of specialised treatment.

COMMUNICATION ON TIM

Press releases and briefings to local and international media mark key TIM activities. Announcements of payments through the TIM receive front page coverage in the Palestinian press.

In local banks, posters and brochures inform the beneficiaries and the wider Palestinian public about the background of the payments and the TIM.

Information documents and activity reports on TIM progress and achievements are distributed regularly to all stakeholders and partners (Office of the President, Member States, European Parliament and contributing donors).

TIM BACKGROUND

On 9 May 2006 the Quartet addressed the humanitarian situation in the Palestinian Territory and asked the European Union to propose a "Temporary International Mechanism" to ensure direct delivery of assistance to the Palestinians.

The mechanism was subsequently developed under the patronage of European Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner. Its establishment was endorsed by the European Council and the Quartet for a period of three months. This mandate has been extended three times. The current mandate ends on 30 June 2007.