AIDE MEMOIRE

EUROPEAN UNION'S ASSISTANCE FOR THE REFUGEE'S CRISIS

Overall, the European Union allocated **nearly €19 million over the last year** to help the country cope with the refugee crisis (Special Measures and humanitarian aid combined):

- The European Union allocated around €14,5 million over the last year in additional, i.e. extraordinary assistance to help your country cope with the refugee crisis (so called "special measures").
- The European Union granted additional, €4,4 million so far in EU humanitarian aid to help the migrants in Tabanovce and Vinojug transit centres (grants provided to humanitarian organisations).

Under **SPECIAL MEASURE I** (€3 MEUR), the European Union supported the government institutions at national and local level with new equipment and vehicles.

Border police will receive 31 terrain vehicles that will replace the outdated fleet of cars (*contract signed*).

The **Crisis Management Center** received 2 minivans to transport vulnerable migrants and staff. It will further receive 2 terrain vehicles to fulfil their mandate *(contract signed)*.

EU support has reached the most affected municipalities: Gevgelija and Kumanovo

General **hospital in Gevgelija** will shortly receive specialised medical equipment. Hospitals in Gevgelija and Kumanovo each receive a fully-equipped ambulance to reach to urgencies, including any citizen of this country (*contract signed*).

Public utilities **Komunalec** in Gevgelija and Cistota i zelenilo in Kumanovo receive new waste management vehicles that will keep these towns and the transit centres clean (2 vehicles delivered, contract signed for additional 6 vehicles).

Under **SPECIAL MEASURE II** (€9 million), the European Union supports the border and migration management capabilities of the Border police.

Until March 2016, the government paid from the national budget for the stay of **border guards** – both guest officers and local police who need to be redeployed to the Southern Border from other parts of the country. Since then, the European Union has paid for their accommodation and meals as well as fuel for their cars (*operation running since March*).

Senior Border Management Expert assists border police with this joint operation (*deployed*).

Border police receives capacity building trainings on border management, countering smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings and the registration of migrants as well as **border surveillance equipment**, such as thermal long-ranging cameras (*ongoing tenders*).

Under **SPECIAL MEASURE III (€2,5 million),** the European Union will support the medical staff of the Ministry of Health to provide services to migrants. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to refurbish premises that can accommodate migrants, as well as schemes for assisted voluntary return of migrants (contract with implementing agency before signature).

This is all within the context of **overall past and planned EU financial and technical support** of any type for the country amounting over €50 million. This helps to strengthen the operational capacity of the border police, to improve border surveillance and orderly control migratory flows.