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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.2.2025)

The Commission expresses its deep regret for the damage caused to Cyprus by the floods on 2 November 2024. Under the ‘Thalia 2021-2027’ Programme, Cohesion Policy supports Cyprus with EUR 79 million (EU contribution) for long-term investments aimed at risk prevention and resilience-building, particularly in coastal areas. These investments include targeted anti-flood measures, designed to mitigate the impacts of natural disasters. In addition, Cyprus’ recovery and resilience plan includes several anti-flood and water collection measures, as well as measures to enhance Cyprus’ civil protection system. Similarly, through the Cypriot Rural Development Programme 2014-2022 and the Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan 2023-2027, significant support is available for restoring agricultural potential.

Furthermore, on 19 December 2024, the Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction (RESTORE) proposal was approved. RESTORE introduces targeted flexibilities under the 2021-2027 Cohesion Policy framework, for reconstruction and repair measures to alleviate the negative socio-economic consequences of natural disasters. Additional measures under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) are also available to provide liquidity support for farmers, forest holders, and small and medium-sized enterprises under the Rural Development Programmes impacted by such events.

The Commission stands ready to collaborate with the Cypriot authorities to explore how EU resources can be deployed effectively. In line with the shared management principle, the national authorities are responsible for selecting, implementing and monitoring the EU co-funded projects, in line with the programming documents.