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Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.8.2026)

The Commission shares the concerns about the increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires linked to climate change and is preparing a new EU Integrated Framework on Climate Resilience. It will aim to establish a more anticipatory, comprehensive and coherent approach to climate preparedness and resilience at EU and Member State level, including for EU economy.

Since 2019, the EU has started developing the future permanent rescEU¹ fleet, financing the acquisition of 12 new firefighting airplanes and five helicopters. While the technical specifications of assets remain under the responsibility of Member States, the Commission is working with them and with the industry to identify and closely monitor the development of potential new suitable European projects.

The Commission will continue to mobilise relevant EU programmes, including Horizon Europe, InvestEU and the Cohesion Policy funds, to support research, innovation and, where eligible, industrial investments contributing to develop an EU manufacturing of water-bomber aircraft.

The Commission will also continue to strengthen cooperation among Member States through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism² by expanding rescEU capacities, improving interoperability, promoting joint training and exercises, and reinforcing prevention, preparedness and solidarity. In the context of the negotiations on the next Multiannual Financial Framework (2028–2034) and on the Commission proposal for a Regulation on the Union Civil Protection³, the support of the European Parliament will be essential to ensure the effective implementation of activities aiming at building a more resilient and better-prepared Europe.

¹ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu_en.

² https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/eu-civil-protection-mechanism_en.

³ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/union-civil-protection-mechanism-and-union-support-health-emergency-preparedness-and-response_en.