

To: #HQ-DCD PP&E White Paper Review

Subject: Irish Aid

Dear Sir or Madam:

I think that the expenditure of over €600 million per annum on Irish Aid is way too high a figure and that this money would be better spent at home for the benefit of Irish People

Many of the countries that we spend money on have substantial military forces that they could trim if they were that worried about their own people

To give but one example - Uganda

We have recently committed this State (with Irish taxpayers money) to spend some €165 million there over the next few years to help alleviate Poverty etc

Yet last year Uganda bought from Russia 6 Sukhoi Su-30 combat aircraft at circa \$120 million each!

Here is a picture of one in the Ugandan colours:

<http://beegeagle.wordpress.com/2011/10/18/uganda-updf-get-more-sukhoi-su-30mk2-jets/>

Note: *Government acquired the jets that can undertake combat missions within a 3,000 kilometre range, at \$740 million (Shs1.8 trillion), and Central Bank Governor, Mr Emmanuel Mutebile, later revealed to UK's Financial Times newspaper that President Museveni forced him to raid foreign exchange reserves to pay for the military hardware.*

We need to stop spending huge sums of Irish taxpayers money on other people and instead spend it at home where it is badly needed to fund our Hospitals and Schools and other special needs

We should cut foreign aid by 90% or so and leave an annual 'roll over' fund in place to help people in Emergency situations like direct Famine, Earthquakes etc

That is something Irish People have always been generous with

Personally I think spending this huge sum each year is an insult to the Irish People when we are faced with declining services and more taxes and at a time when (as the man said) - we are 'Bust'!

Yours Sincerely

Karl Murphy

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Ireland