

## III

(Notices)

## COMMISSION

## Call for proposals

DG EAC No 20/01

## Pilot project for campaigns to combat doping in sport in Europe

(2001/C 130/09)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Doping has always been a violation of the basic principles of sporting ethics. Today, in view of the proliferation of cases, the phenomenon of doping in sport no longer belongs within the strict framework of sporting ethics but has also become a public health problem. In principle, physical and sporting activity should contribute to improving the citizen's quality of life. However, the use of prohibited substances or misuse of medicinal products has adverse health effects and hence vitiates the very goal of sport. In the context of competitive sport, doping represents the antithesis of sport and the values it has traditionally stood for, namely fair play and the idea of surpassing oneself.

In December 1998, the Vienna European Council expressed its concern at the scale of doping in sport and the seriousness of this practice, stressing the need for action at EU level. Subsequently, the ministers responsible for sport met on an informal basis on three occasions in 1999 to discuss the doping problem.

At its meeting on 6 December 2000, the Council of Ministers of the European Union stressed the importance of combating doping in sport, underlining the Vienna conclusions.

On 17 December 1998, the European Parliament adopted a resolution in which it calls on the Commission to take into account the true scale of the doping problem and to propose measures at Community level, notably with a view to better coordination and complementarity between national and European measures and actions.

The Committee of the Regions also delivered an opinion on the 'European model of sport', which contains a chapter devoted to doping.

On 1 December 1999, the Commission adopted a Community support plan to combat doping in sport, with a view to describing the action taken by the Commission and the

action envisaged in response to requests from the other Community institutions and agencies involved in the fight against doping. During 2000, the European Parliament, the Committee of the Regions and the Economic and Social Committee published their opinions on the communication.

'In its declaration on the specific features of sport, the Nice European Council of December 2000 underlines the benefits of sport for young people and urges the need for special heed to be paid, in particular by sporting organisations, to the education and vocational training of top young sportsmen and women so that their vocational integration is not jeopardised because of their sporting careers, to their psychological balance and family ties, and to their health, in particular the prevention of doping. It appreciates the contribution of associations and organisations which minister to these requirements in their training work and thus make a valuable contribution socially.'

In 2000, the budgetary authority allocated a budget for the first time for the European Commission to launch pilot measures to combat doping. This was also a first step towards implementing the Commission communication on a Community support plan to combat doping in sport, presented on 1 December 1999 by Member of the Commission Viviane Reding. This year, the growing importance of the fight against doping has led the budgetary authority to include a new budget heading to finance pilot projects for campaigns to combat doping in sport in Europe.

Finally, it should be recalled that Europe has traditionally played a flagship role in combating doping, so the EU must take on a special responsibility in this area.

## 2. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

This document provides information about the implementation of heading B3-2020 of the European Community's 2001 budget and includes a call for applications for Community funding for measures to combat doping in sport in Europe.

In this context, the Commission is encouraging cooperation between the institutions and organisations mentioned in point V below, with a view to:

- organising information campaigns against doping in sport, including the development of information material,
- creating and implementing education programmes to inform young people of the dangers of doping,
- examining the advisability of approximating or even harmonising the legislation of Member States laying down acceptable medical limits for the absorption of doping substances,
- examining the advisability of harmonising testing arrangements throughout the EU.

The proposed measures will take into account the content of projects selected during the call for proposals launched in 2000.

### 3. MEASURES

This call relates to the following experimental measures:

*ACTION I — Information campaigns and education programmes on combating doping (see point 2, indents 1 and 2 above)*

One of the most important aspects of the fight against doping is prevention and raising awareness among the public and groups at risk.

In order to pursue this preventive approach, the Commission is encouraging the organisation of information campaigns and/or the production of education programmes at European or world level. These measures include the production of materials (videos, CD-ROMs, to be made available free of charge) and the development of target measures which will be evaluated at a later stage.

These campaigns and programmes must emphasise health in order to underline the dangers of doping and the harm it does to sporting ethics, encourage the correct use of medicines and protect the health of athletes, especially young people, whether professional or amateur.

*ACTION II — Organisation of conferences, symposia, etc., with a view to harmonising the fight against doping at European level (see point 2, indents 3 and 4 above)*

The results of these pilot projects should enable sporting organisations, national authorities and European bodies to take action.

The Commission particularly welcomes projects on the following topics:

- protecting young athletes,

- regulatory questions concerning acceptable medical limits for the absorption of doping substances, with the aim of bringing together or harmonising national measures,
- bringing together or harmonising national testing arrangements,
- the effects of doping on the physical and mental health of individuals,
- the underlying causes of the growth in doping: socio-psychological aspects, pressures in the sporting environment, over-training, too many competitions,
- information on medicines,
- the role of doctors and other health professionals,
- ethical and legal aspects relating to health professionals,
- planning and evaluating programmes to prevent doping,
- doping among amateur athletes,
- the use of doping substances outside the sporting environment.

Both measures will complement other Community initiatives, in particular those in the areas of research and health.

### 4. BUDGET

The overall budget covers measures to combat doping which will run during the period between 1 October 2001 and 30 September 2002.

The total budget available is EUR 2 million.

The proposals accepted will be supported in accordance with the following indicative guidelines:

**Action I:** Community funding may not exceed 60 % of eligible expenditure in most cases and may not be less than EUR 100 000;

**Action II:** Community funding may not exceed 60 % of eligible expenditure in most cases and may not be less than EUR 50 000.

### 5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

#### Applicants

Applicant sporting organisations and public and academic authorities must be:

1. from one of the 15 Member States of the European Union;
- and/or

2. sporting federations at European and/or world level recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC);

and/or

3. public health organisations or organisations bringing together health professionals at European level.

#### ACTION I — *Information campaigns — education programmes*

Applicant organisations and authorities must have the legal status of:

— sporting organisations

and/or

— local, regional or national authorities.

#### ACTION II — *Organisation of conferences, symposia, etc.*

Applicant organisations and authorities must have the legal status of:

— sporting organisations,

— regional or national authorities,

— scientific institutions,

— universities,

— research centres.

### **The partnership**

The partnership must:

— include partners from at least five Member States and, if possible, associate public and academic authorities and sporting organisations in the spirit of partnership advocated by the Commission in its report to the Helsinki European Council,

or

— involve a project carried out by a single actor at national level able to produce methods or results which can be easily adapted for use in other Member States (e.g. material in different language versions).

An international sporting federation from the list drawn up by the IOC and/or a European one meets the criteria referred to above per se.

### **International public organisations**

The programme can also accommodate joint measures involving international public organisations active directly or indirectly in the field of sports, based on joint contributions and compliance with the rules of each institution or organisation.

### **Other eligibility criteria:**

— applicants must have the operational capacity to bring the project to a successful conclusion,

— they must be able to provide guarantees of their financial viability and professional standards,

— they must be at least three years old and have already performed activities in the area of sport and/or the fight against doping.

### **6. EXCLUSION CRITERIA COMMON TO BOTH MEASURES**

The following are excluded from this call for proposals:

— projects concerned only with the organisation of sporting events,

— projects submitted by physical persons,

— projects concluding later than 30 September 2002,

— projects receiving support under another Community programme,

— projects which were completed before the date for the submission of applications,

— projects involving only a single Member State, and with results which cannot be transferred to other Member States,

— for profit projects.

### **7. PROJECT SELECTION PROCEDURE**

Only those applications properly completed and received by the stated deadline will be considered.

Applications must be accompanied by a balanced budget (income and expenditure), a detailed description of the project, the articles of association (or equivalent) of the organisation, the balance sheet for the last financial year or the annual budget and a specific undertaking from all the other organisations providing funding.

### **8. SELECTION**

The Commission will select projects on the basis of the opinions of a group of independent experts chaired by the Commission. The experts will issue a joint recommendation, achieved via a global vote for each project.

The Commission and the experts will take account of the following criteria in selecting projects:

**A. Activities:**

- the quality of the methodology proposed for carrying out the project,
- the ability of the proposed lead organisation (and the co-organisers) to complete the project,
- the respective roles of the co-organisers,
- the promotion of partnerships between public authorities and sporting organisations in the fight against doping in sport, as advocated by the Commission in its report to the Helsinki European Council,
- the appropriateness of the co-organisers and of the planned budget for the project objectives,
- the balance between the various operations making up the programme, taking into account the indicative breakdown of the budget,
- the existence of machinery for evaluating the results.

**B. The Commission also particularly welcomes projects on the following topics:**

- complementarity with other EU initiatives in the area of the fight against doping,
- European added value: the projects submitted must be of particular interest to the EU, over and above their national and/or regional value, in particular by facilitating an exchange of experiences and knowledge in this area,
- the innovative nature of the proposed project,
- gender equality: taking into account the gender dimension (different needs of men's and women's groups and expected results) in the aims of the measure and equality between women and men in the organisation of the project,
- aspects of the project particularly relevant to disabled people or disadvantaged young people, or aspects which take account of the specific nature of amateur sport,
- the multiplier effect, transferability of results and promotion of good practices: the suitability of the projects to be made generally available, disseminated and/or applied on a wide scale. In this context, the use of new information and communication technologies will be particularly well appreciated.

The selected projects will be announced by October 2001. No information on decisions relating to individual projects will be given prior to this.

**9. ELIGIBLE AND NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE****Eligible expenditure**

Expenditure can only be considered if it arises after 1 October 2001. Only the categories of expenditure listed below are eligible, provided they are properly accounted for and valued in accordance with market conditions, and are identifiable and verifiable. They must be direct costs (i.e. generated directly by the project and indispensable for its implementation, having regard to the cost/benefit principle):

- personnel costs directly linked to the measure, corresponding to actual salaries augmented by social security contributions,
- travel and subsistence costs for personnel,
- direct costs associated with the measure:
  - conference and seminar costs (organisation, travel and subsistence costs for participants and speakers, interpreting, fees),
  - information dissemination costs (production costs (publications, books, CD-ROMs, videos, Internet, etc.), translation, distribution, dissemination),
  - other direct costs linked to the measure.

**Non-eligible expenditure**

The following expenditure cannot be considered eligible:

- ongoing operational, depreciation and equipment costs,
- overheads,
- the cost of consumables and supplies,
- capital investment costs,
- general provisions (e.g. for losses and possible future debts),
- contingency reserves,
- debts,
- interest on debts,
- charges for financial services,
- bad debts,
- exchange losses, apart from exceptional cases for which express provision is made,
- expenditure on luxuries,

- the production of material and publications for commercial purposes; however, consideration will be given to monographs, collections, reviews, records, CDs, CD-ROMs, CD-I's and videos provided they form an integral part of the project,
- contributions in kind (land, immovable property whether in its entirety or in part, durable capital goods, raw materials and unpaid voluntary work).

#### 10. NOTIFICATION AND SUBSIDY PAYMENT PROCEDURE

- (a) Applicants will be informed of the Commission's decision concerning their subsidy application as soon as possible. No information will be released until the Commission's decision has been made public.
- (b) Selection of a beneficiary does not oblige the Commission to grant a financial contribution equal to the amount requested by the tenderer. The allocated amount may not exceed the amount requested.
- (c) In the event of rejection, the grounds will be indicated. The Commission's decision will be final.
- (d) Should the Commission award a grant, a standard agreement setting out the conditions and the amount in euro will be sent to the beneficiaries.
- (e) An amount equivalent to 50 % of the amount of the grant will be advanced within 60 calendar days of receipt by the Commission of the agreement signed by the two parties. The balance will be paid within 60 days of the Commission receiving and approving the final report and detailed final accounts of income and expenditure. The final accounts must be balanced, dated, drawn up in euro and signed and certified by the authorised person, as provided for in the organisation's constituent documents. The final accounts must be presented in Annex IV, which will be appended to the subsidy agreement.
- (f) Beneficiaries undertake to carry out the approved projects as presented in the application form. Any change to the project must be authorised by the Commission in advance. The inclusion in the final accounts of costs not referred to in the agreement may lead the Commission to request reimbursement of all or part of the subsidy.
- (g) Beneficiaries are required to publicise the fact that they have received aid from the European Commission and to use the name and emblem of the European Commission on all their publications, posters, programmes and other products realised in the context of the co-funded project.

- (h) In cases in which the **real eligible costs** at the end of the measure are **lower** than the total estimated costs, the Commission will apply the envisaged percentage in respect of the costs indicated in the budget appended to the agreement, and the beneficiary will be obliged to reimburse amounts already paid in excess of the amount due.
- (i) The projects selected may be subject to audits and *ex-ante* and *ex-post* evaluations. The responsible person in the organisation will undertake, with his or her signature, to provide proof that the subsidy has been used correctly. The Commission and the Court of Auditors of the European Communities may check the use made of the subsidy, at any time during the term of the agreement and during a period of five years following expiry of the agreement.

#### 11. REPORT AND FINAL ACCOUNTS

On completion of a project which has received Community support, the organisers must submit an **activity report** on the results and be prepared to supply the European Commission with any information it may need to enable it to evaluate the project. This report must give a succinct but full description of the results of the project and must be accompanied by any publications produced under the project.

The final report must be sent to the Commission within two months of the end of the measure and at the latest before 30 November 2002.

The **final accounts** must be attached to the report.

#### 12. PUBLICITY

The organisers of selected projects are under a contractual obligation to ensure, by all appropriate means, that the funding awarded to the project by the European Union is publicised. If this obligation is not met, the contract may be cancelled.

#### 13. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

- 1. Only dossiers comprising all the documents in points (a) to (e) below received before the deadline, duly completed and accompanied by the requisite supporting documents will be considered:
  - (a) the subsidy application form, duly completed, dated, and signed by the person responsible, including a **detailed description** of the project;
  - (b) a **balanced forward budget** (income and expenditure) in euro, stating the estimated unit costs for the various items of expenditure and income. This detailed budget must be dated and signed by the person responsible. It must be presented in the table sent with the application form;

- (c) official annual accounts of the applicant for the most recent financial year available;
  - (d) constituent documents of the organisation;
  - (e) the bank details form, completed by the beneficiary and certified by the bank.
2. Applications for funding must be submitted in **triplicate** (one original and two corresponding copies), signed by the responsible person. The number of the call for proposals must be indicated on the envelope. Applications should be sent to the address given in point 5 below.
3. No changes to the dossier may be made after the application has been submitted.
4. Applications sent by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

5. The application form referred to in 13(1)(a) above must be used for submitting the subsidy application. This form may be obtained from:

European Commission  
DG EAC C.5  
Sport Unit  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200  
B-1049 Brussels

or from the Sport Unit's Internet site  
(<http://europa.eu.int/comm/sport>).

#### **Deadline for the submission of applications**

Applications must be sent, in triplicate, by 22 June 2001 at the latest (the date on the postmark or delivery company stamp will be considered the official date of dispatch) to the above address.

The deadline must be strictly adhered to, and no extension will be granted.

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### **Call for proposals concerning preparatory measures for a local commitment to employment**

(Budget line B5-5030)

**Ref. VP/2001/015**

(2001/C 130/10)

#### **1. Introduction**

In April 2000 the Commission launched a campaign entitled 'Acting locally for employment'. It was underpinned by a communication entitled 'Acting locally for employment — a local dimension for the European employment strategy' <sup>(1)</sup>. The aim was to develop further the local dimension of the European strategy. Mobilisation of local and non-local actors was sought by launching a debate on how local actors could promote employment at local level. The debate has shown the need to support local actors further in the process of developing a more strategic approach to employment.

The campaign was underpinned by a call for proposals issued in 2000 (VP/2000/005) on preparatory measures for a local commitment for employment. This focused on the design of local action plans for employment (LAPS) and the identification of good practices on the issues identified in the communication acting locally.

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<sup>(1)</sup> COM(2000) 196 final, adopted on 7.4.2000.

The employment guidelines 2001 <sup>(2)</sup> set out that Member States will encourage local and regional authorities to develop strategies for employment in order to exploit fully the possibilities offered by job creation at local level and to promote partnerships to this end with all the actors concerned, including the representatives of civil society.

#### **2. Objectives of the call for proposals**

The call intends to support measures that can contribute to the creation of an enabling and supportive quality environment for acting locally for employment within the context of the European employment strategy. The main objective of this call for proposals is to facilitate the establishment and implementation of local action plans for employment that can contribute to exploit fully the potential for job creation at local level.

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<sup>(2)</sup> Council Decision of 19 January 2001 on guidelines for Member States' employment policies for the year 2001, OJ L 22, 24.1.2001 p. 18.