

## COMMISSION

### Call for proposals for the provision of support for representative European coordination organisations active in the field of equal opportunities for disabled people

(1999/C 53/09)

In its social action programme (1998 to 2000), the Commission announced its intention of launching a wide-ranging debate on the application of Article 13 of the Treaty on European Union, as amended by the Treaty of Amsterdam, and on the proposal for Community legislation and the possibility of a framework programme to combat all forms of discrimination.

The budget lines which refer to Article 13 and under which future Community action to combat discrimination can be prepared are B3-4111 and B3-2006.

The Commission attaches great importance to the coherent and complementary nature of these two budget lines, each of which can, in its own field, contribute to fostering a horizontal approach to combating discrimination in compliance with Article 13.

In order to implement these two budget lines, the Commission will publish several calls for proposals, which will all provide support for activities making a significant contribution to preparing future Community action based on such a horizontal approach.

Budget line B3-4111 provides for the European Commission to implement measures to support representative European organisations active in the field of equal opportunities for disabled people in charge of coordinating their own network.

In this context, the Commission is calling on European organisations to submit proposals with a view to obtaining a financial contribution. This contribution would be towards costs inherent in carrying out the activities provided for in their annual work programme (maximum 12 months). Applicant organisations should be operating at a European level. This means that their structure and activities should cover more than half the Member States of the European Union.

Financial assistance under this call for proposals may be provided for activities which are of Community interest and which contribute significantly to the further development and implementation of the Community disability

policy and meet the principles underlying the Commission communication of 30 July 1996 (COM(96) 406 final) on equality of opportunity for people with disabilities.

The maximum budget made available under this call will be EUR 1 300 000. The financial contribution will not exceed 70 % of the total costs including the countervalue of contribution in kind, if any. The maximum amount of each subsidy will be EUR 100 000.

When the proposed work programmes are examined, the beneficiaries will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- the degree to which the foreseen activities contribute to the promotion of a rights-based approach to disability issues,
- the degree of participation of disabled people which should be effective and substantial in the design and implementation of each of the foreseen activities which in addition must prove to benefit disabled people,
- the degree of cooperation which should be effective and balanced between the association and its members with regard to: planning of activities, carrying out of activities, regular exchange of information and financial participation,
- the extent of representativity within the movement concerned,
- the degree to which the proposed work programme favours a multisectoral approach to disability issues,
- a sound cost-efficiency ratio,
- the degree of financial feasibility of the annual programme of activities by means of a realistic, reasonable and balanced budget.

The procedure for the appraisal of a request is as follows:

- receipt and recording by the Commission,
- examination by the services of the Commission,

— adoption of the final decision and communication of the result to the applicant.

The decision of the Commission is final. The entire procedure is strictly confidential. In the event of approval by the Commission, a single agreement covering all the activities to be co-financed (expressed in euro) will be concluded between the Commission and the party submitting the proposal.

The information dossier relating to this call which contains more detailed information concerning the eligibility of organisations and the procedures which must be followed in making applications must be obtained by applying in writing to the following fax number:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Employment: Industrial  
Relations and Social Affairs,  
DG V.E.4  
Call for proposals VP/1999/001.  
Fax (32-2) 295 10 12.

It may alternatively be downloaded from the Commission website at the following address  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg05/soc-prot/disable/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg05/soc-prot/disable/index_en.htm)

Proposals must be posted by 25 March 1999 at the latest.

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