

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'

(2003/C 79/04)

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006) ⁽¹⁾, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area' (2002-2006) ⁽²⁾ (referred to as 'the specific programme').

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as the Commission) has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme ⁽³⁾ (referred to as the work programme) setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 5 November 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006) ⁽⁴⁾ (referred to as 'the rules for participation'), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions comprise the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the annexes. These annexes indicate in particular, for each call, the dates of closure for the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the

areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.

3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (referred to as the proposers) are invited to submit to the Commission proposals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the calls which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. These guides, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via one of the following addresses:

European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions are submitted preferably in electronic format, either on CD-ROM or on diskette. In any case, proposals for indirect RTD actions may also be prepared and submitted using the forms in the guide for proposers (referred to as on paper).

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Unpublished Commission Decision C(2002) 4789, as updated by the Commission Decisions C(2003) 577 and C(2003) 955.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

Once the software tool within the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS) is available before the closure date in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line ⁽⁶⁾. The EPSS software tool will be available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on CD-ROM, diskette, or paper by post must be received by the Commission at the following address, and labelled as follows:

'FP6 — Research Proposals'
(Call identifier: ...)
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

For deliveries by hand or by representatives (including by private courier ⁽⁷⁾), the delivery should be to the following address, and labelled as follows:

'FP6 — Research Proposals'
(Call identifier: ...)
European Commission
Rue de Genève/Genèvestraat, 1
B-1140 Brussels

In both cases, proposals for indirect actions submitted on CD-ROM or on diskette must be accompanied, in the same envelope, by an identical paper version.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted either on CD-ROM or on diskette which are incomplete ⁽⁸⁾, illegible ⁽⁹⁾ or contain viruses will be excluded if a complete corresponding paper version has not been supplied.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be submitted on-line ⁽¹⁰⁾ via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete ⁽¹¹⁾, illegible ⁽¹²⁾ or contain viruses will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on paper and which are incomplete ⁽¹³⁾ will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted by email ⁽¹⁴⁾ or by fax will be excluded.

7. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

If foreseen in the relevant call, they will be taken up in the framework of a future evaluation.

8. In the case of successive submissions of a proposal in the same format, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

In the case where the same proposal for an indirect RTD action is submitted on paper and electronic format (CD-ROM, diskette, on-line), the Commission will only examine the text submitted under the electronic formats.

9. In all correspondence relating to the concerned call (eg, when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

⁽⁶⁾ The software tool for on-line and off-line preparation and submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions should be available in March 2003.

⁽⁷⁾ Courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should be given the following number: (32-2) 295 58 75 (Mr J-C Debouvere).

⁽⁸⁾ All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

⁽⁹⁾ Proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted in PDF (portable document format, version 3 or higher with embedded fonts) or RTF (rich text format).

⁽¹⁰⁾ See footnote 6.

⁽¹¹⁾ See footnote 8.

⁽¹²⁾ See footnote 9.

⁽¹³⁾ See footnote 8.

⁽¹⁴⁾ This does not include proposals for indirect RTD actions that have been submitted on-line.

ANNEX I

1. Specific programme: Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.
2. Thematic priority/Domain: All thematic priority areas.
3. Call title: Specific Support Actions (SSA) for Associated Candidate Countries.
4. Call identifier: FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-General.
5. Date of publication: 2 April 2003.
6. Closure date: 26 June 2003 at 17h00 (Brussels local time).
7. Total indicative budget: EUR 9 000 000.
8. Area and instruments:

| Area | Instruments |
|--|-------------------------|
| See Annex D, Section D.1 of the Work Programme | Specific support action |

9. Minimum number of participants ⁽¹⁾:

| Instrument | Minimum number |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Specific support action | One legal entity from one MS or AS |

10. Restriction to participation: None.
11. Consortium agreement: Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are not required to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. Evaluation procedure:
 - the evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure,
 - proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
13. Evaluation criteria: see Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.
14. Indicative evaluation and selection timetable:
 - evaluation results: two months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6,
 - contract signature: six months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6.

⁽¹⁾ MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC: Associated candidate countries — Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.

ANNEX II

1. Specific programme: Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.
2. Thematic priority/Domain:
 - Nano-technologies and nano-sciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, and new production processes and devices,
 - aeronautics and space,
 - food quality and safety,
 - sustainable development, global change and ecosystems,
 - (i) Sustainable Energy Systems,
 - (ii) Sustainable surface transport.
3. Call title: Targeted Specific Support Actions (SSA) for Associated Candidate Countries.
4. Call identifiers:
 - Nano-technologies and nano-sciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, and new production processes and devices (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-NMP),
 - aeronautics and space (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-Aero-Space),
 - food quality and safety (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-Food),
 - sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: sustainable energy systems (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-Energy),
 - sustainable development, global change and ecosystems: sustainable surface transport (FP6-2003-ACC-SSA-Transport).
5. Date of publication: 2 April 2003.
6. Closure date: 26 June 2003 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. Total indicative budget: up to EUR 4 000 000, with up to EUR 1 000 000 per priority thematic area.
8. Area and instruments:

| Area | Instruments |
|--|-------------------------|
| See Annex D, Section D.2 of the Work Programme | Specific support action |
9. Minimum number of participants⁽¹⁾:

| Instrument | Minimum number |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Specific support action | One legal entity from one MS or AS |
10. Restriction to participation: None.
11. Consortium agreement: Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are not required to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. Evaluation procedure:
 - the evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure,
 - proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
13. Evaluation criteria: see Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.
14. Indicative evaluation and selection timetable:
 - evaluation results: two months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6,
 - contract signature: six months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6.

⁽¹⁾ MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC: Associated candidate countries – Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Rep., Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey.