III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — DG EAC No EAC/04/05

for the implementation of Action 1, Action 2 and Action 3 in the academic year 2006/2007 and Action 4 in the year 2005 of

ERASMUS MUNDUS

The Community Action programme for the enhancement of quality in higher education and the promotion of intercultural understanding through co-operation with third countries

(2005/C 47/08)

1. Objectives and description

The Erasmus Mundus programme's overall aim is to enhance the quality of European higher education by fostering co-operation with third countries in order to improve the development of human resources and to promote dialogue and understanding between peoples and cultures.

The Commission will

- select high-quality integrated masters courses which are offered by a consortium of at least three higher education institutions in at least three participating countries (Action 1),
- give grants to highly qualified graduate students and scholars from third-countries to follow or participate in the selected masters courses (Action 2),
- select high-quality partnerships between selected masters courses and third-country higher education institutions (Action 3),
- select projects of at least three institutions in at least three participating countries aiming to improve
 accessibility and enhance the profile and visibility of higher education in the European Union (Action
 4).

2. Eligible applicants

- Action 1: higher education institutions in the 25 EU Member States, the countries of the European Economic Area/European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) and the candidate countries for accession to the EU (Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey). As regards institutions from the candidate countries for accession to the EU (Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey), they will be able to participate under the present call for proposals for Action 1 only if the official participation of these countries in the programme has been formalised through the relevant instruments governing the relations between the European Community and those countries before the selection decision is taken (September 2005). Otherwise, institutions coming from those countries are not eligible for Action 1 under the present call for proposals,
- Action 2: individuals from third countries, i.e. any country other than the countries mentioned under Action 1 above,
- Action 3: higher education institutions from all countries of the world,
- Action 4: institutions from all countries of the world.

3. Budget and project duration

The total budget earmarked for the funding of projects is estimated at EUR 63.3 million. In case of Action 4, financial assistance from the Commission cannot exceed 75 % of the total eligible costs.

- Action 1: each grant will amount to EUR 15 000 annually. Masters courses must start between August and November 2006,
- Action 2: each grant will amount to EUR 21 000 annually for each third-country student and EUR 13 000 for each third-country scholar. Grants are for masters courses starting in the academic year 2006/2007,
- Action 3: each grant will amount to a minimum of EUR 5 000 and a maximum of 15 000 annually plus allocations for student and scholar mobility. Partnerships must start between August and November 2006. The maximum duration of partnerships is 3 years,
- Action 4: grants will vary according to the project size. Projects must start between October and December 2005. The maximum duration of projects is 3 years.

4. Deadline

Applications must be sent to the Commission no later than

- Action 1 and Action 4: 31 May 2005,
- Action 3: 31 October 2005,
- Action 2: 28 February 2006.

5. Further information

The full text of the call for proposals and the application forms are available on the following website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html

Applications must comply with the requirements set out in the full text and be submitted using the form provided.