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## Information and Notices

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance

## I

*(Information)*

## COMMISSION

Ecu <sup>(1)</sup>

26 January 1996

(96/C 23/01)

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc	38,7846	Finnish markka	5,81293
Danish krone	7,29630	Swedish krona	8,82154
German mark	1,88651	Pound sterling	0,842018
Greek drachma	312,535	United States dollar	1,26892
Spanish peseta	160,100	Canadian dollar	1,74984
French franc	6,48292	Japanese yen	135,039
Irish pound	0,811954	Swiss franc	1,52372
Italian lira	2036,67	Norwegian krone	8,26448
Dutch guilder	2,11301	Icelandic krona	85,0050
Austrian schilling	13,2653	Australian dollar	1,71754
Portuguese escudo	196,353	New Zealand dollar	1,90758
		South African rand	4,63892

The Commission has installed a telex with an automatic answering device which gives the conversion rates in a number of currencies. This service is available every day from 3.30 p.m. until 1 p.m. the following day. Users of the service should do as follows:

- call telex number Brussels 23789;
- give their own telex code;
- type the code 'cccc' which puts the automatic system into operation resulting in the transmission of the conversion rates of the ecu;
- the transmission should not be interrupted until the end of the message, which is marked by the code 'ffff'.

*Note:* The Commission also has an automatic telex answering service (No 21791) and an automatic fax answering service (No 296 10 97) providing daily data concerning calculation of the conversion rates applicable for the purposes of the common agricultural policy.

<sup>(1)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) No 3180/78 of 18 December 1978 (OJ No L 379, 30. 12. 1978, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1971/89 (OJ No L 189, 4. 7. 1989, p. 1).  
Council Decision 80/1184/EEC of 18 December 1980 (Convention of Lomé) (OJ No L 349, 23. 12. 1980, p. 34).

Commission Decision No 3334/80/ECSC of 19 December 1980 (OJ No L 349, 23. 12. 1980, p. 27).

Financial Regulation of 16 December 1980 concerning the general budget of the European Communities (OJ No L 345, 20. 12. 1980, p. 23).

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3308/80 of 16 December 1980 (OJ No L 345, 20. 12. 1980, p. 1).

Decision of the Council of Governors of the European Investment Bank of 13 May 1981 (OJ No L 311, 30. 10. 1981, p. 1).

**Communication of Decisions under sundry tendering procedures in agriculture (cereals)**

(96/C 23/02)

*(See notice in Official Journal of the European Communities No L 360 of 21 December 1982, page 43)*

Standing invitation to tender	Weekly invitation to tender	
	Date of Commission Decision	Maximum refund
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1088/95 of 15 May 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the refund for the export of common wheat to all third countries (OJ No L 109, 16. 5. 1995, p. 13)	25. 1. 1996	ECU 10,57/tonne (*)
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1089/95 of 15 May 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the refund for the export of barley to all third countries (OJ No L 109, 16. 5. 1995, p. 16)	25. 1. 1996	Tenders rejected
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1090/95 of 15 May 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the refund for the export of oats produced in Finland and Sweden for export from Finland or Sweden to all third countries (OJ No L 109, 16. 5. 1995, p. 19)	25. 1. 1996	ECU 6,50/tonne
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1091/95 of 15 May 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the refund for the export of rye to all third countries (OJ No L 109, 16. 5. 1995, p. 22)	25. 1. 1996	ECU 35,62/tonne
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2428/95 of 16 October 1995 on an invitation to tender for the refund on export of wholly milled medium grain and long grain A rice to certain third countries (OJ No L 249, 17. 10. 1995, p. 19)	25. 1. 1996	Tenders rejected
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2429/95 of 16 October 1995 on an invitation to tender for the refund on export of wholly milled round grain rice to certain third countries (OJ No L 249, 17. 10. 1995, p. 22)	25. 1. 1996	Tenders rejected
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2430/95 of 16 October 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the refund on export of wholly milled medium grain and long grain A rice to certain third countries (OJ No L 249, 17. 10. 1995, p. 25)	25. 1. 1996	ECU 320,00/tonne
		Maximum reduction
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2875/95 of 13 December 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the reduction in the duty on maize imported into Spain from third countries (OJ No L 301, 14. 12. 1995, p. 17)	—	No tenders received
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2876/95 of 13 December 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the reduction in the duty on sorghum imported into Spain from third countries (OJ No L 301, 14. 12. 1995, p. 18)	—	No tenders received
Commission Regulation (EC) No 2877/95 of 13 December 1995 opening an invitation to tender for the reduction in the duty on maize imported into Portugal from third countries (OJ No L 301, 14. 12. 1995, p. 20)	—	No tenders received

(\*) Minimum export tax

**Authorization for State aid pursuant to Articles 92 and 93 of the EC Treaty**

**Cases where the Commission raises no objections**

(96/C 23/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

**Date of adoption:** 29 November 1995

**Member State:** United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)

**Aid No:** N 771/95

**Title:** Structural aid to fisheries and aquaculture

**Objective:** To improve fisheries structures in Northern Ireland

**Legal basis:** The Fisheries and Aquaculture Structures (Grant) Regulations (Northern Ireland)

**Budget:** As provided for in the single programming document for Community structural assistance in the Objective 1 region of Northern Ireland approved by the Commission Decision of 29 July 1994

**Aid intensity:** In accordance with the scales and rates of participation fixed in Annex IV to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3699/93

**Duration:** Six years (1994 to 1999)

**Date of adoption:** 15 December 1995

**Member State:** Spain (Extremadura)

**Aid No:** N 720/95

**Title:** Aid for the development of aquaculture

**Objective:** To develop aquaculture in the autonomous community of Extremadura (Beneficiaries: 10 to 50)

**Legal basis:** Orden por la que se establece un régimen de ayudas a la acuicultura en Extremadura

**Aid intensity:** In accordance with the participation rates set in Annex IV to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3699/93

**Duration:** Five years

**Date of adoption:** 20 December 1995

**Member State:** Germany (Brandenburg)

**Aid No:** N 621/95

**Title:** Aid to Rhotex Texturgarne GmbH Cottbus (synthetic fibres)

**Objective:** Investment aid

**Legal basis:**

- I. Programme for the improvement of regional economic structures
- II. Investment Tax Allowance scheme

**Budget:**

- I. Grant DM 2 009 711 (ECU 1 million)
- II. Tax allowance DM 1 071 000 (ECU 0,5 million)

**Aid intensity:**

- I. 15 % of eligible investment costs
- II. 8 % of eligible investment costs

**Date of adoption:** 9 January 1996 <sup>(1)</sup>

**Member State:** Italy (Sicily)

**Aid No:** N 335/95

**Recipients:** The STAT, Camarda e Drago Scn and Emanuele Antonino companies (based in Sicily) and other owners of property damaged by criminal action. Sector: local carriage of passengers by road

**Form and amount of assistance involved:** Single payment of Lit 950 million for STAT (ECU 447 000) and Lit 500 million (ECU 236 000) for the Camarda e Drago Scn and Emanuele Antonino companies respectively. A payment of Lit 400 million (ECU 180 000) for the purchase of two motor buses in order to resume activities following the attack. (Rate of exchange at 1 November 1995: ECU 1 = Lit 2 122)

**Eligible spending:** Losses due to criminal activity

**Duration:** Single payment

<sup>(1)</sup> Content of the decision: To close the assistance file since this did not constitute aid within the meaning of Article 92 (1) of the Treaty.

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case No IV/M.694 — SKF/INA/WPB)**

(96/C 23/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 17 January 1996, the Commission received the complete notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89<sup>(1)</sup> by which the undertakings SKF GmbH, Schweinfurt/D, belonging to the Swedish SKF group of companies and Industriefaufbaugesellschaft Schaeffler KG, Herzogenaurach/D, belonging to the German Schaeffler group of companies acquire within the meaning of Article 3 (1) (b) of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 joint control of the undertaking WPB Waterpump Bearing GmbH & Co. KG by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture in which they will merge their business activities concerning the manufacture and sale of bearings for waterpumps.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— SKF: manufacture and sale of drive engineering products, in particular bearings,

— Schaeffler group: rolling bearings, bearings of waterpumps.

3. Upon preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (fax No (32 2) 296 43 01) or by post, under reference number IV/M.694 — SKF/INA/WPB, to the following address:

Commission of the European Communities,  
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV),  
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,  
Avenue de Cortenberg/Kortenberglaan 150,  
B-1049 Brussels.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 395, 30. 12. 1989; Corrigendum: OJ No L 257, 21. 9. 1990, p. 13.

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case No IV/M.621 — BLG/Bawag)**

(96/C 23/05)

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

On 21 December 1995, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89<sup>(1)</sup>. Third parties showing a sufficient interest can obtain a copy of the decision by making a written request to:

Commission of the European Communities,  
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV),  
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,  
Avenue de Cortenberg 150/Kortenberglaan 150,  
B-1049 Brussels,  
Fax number: (32 2) 296 43 01.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 395, 30. 12. 1989. Corrigendum: OJ No L 257, 21. 9. 1990, p. 13.

**Inapplicability of the Regulation to a notified operation****(Case No IV/M.650 — SBG/Rentenanstalt)**

(96/C 23/06)

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

On 20 December 1995, the Commission decided that the notified operation in the above case does not fall within the scope of the application of the Merger Regulation because it does not meet the thresholds of Article 1 (2) of the said Regulation. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (a) of the Merger Regulation<sup>(1)</sup>. Third parties showing a sufficient interest can obtain a copy of the decision by making a written request to:

Commission of the European Communities,  
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV),  
Merger Task Force,  
Avenue de Cortenberg 150/Kortenberglaan 150,  
B-1049 Brussels,  
Fax number: (32 2) 296 43 01.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 395, 30. 12. 1989. Corrigendum: OJ No L 257, 21. 9. 1990, p. 13.

## II

*(Preparatory Acts)*

## COMMISSION

**Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive amending Directive 89/686/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment (PPE)**

(96/C 23/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

COM(95) 552 final — 95/0279(COD)

*(Submitted by the Commission on 20 November 1995)*

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL  
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 100a thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 189b of the Treaty,

Whereas Directive 89/686/EEC<sup>(1)</sup> requires that all personal protective equipment bear the CE marking and that this marking be accompanied by additional information corresponding to the year in which the making was affixed;

Whereas this indication of the year is not a factor beneficial to the safety of the user of the personal protective equipment; whereas this indication might be confused with the date of obsolescence which must be affixed to personal protective equipment subject to ageing;

Whereas affixing this indication of the year is a burden on the manufacturers of personal protective equipment; whereas the cost of this burden is far from negligible;

Whereas, in view of the principle of subsidiarity, this simplification for manufacturers can be achieved only by means of a Directive amending the original Directive,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

*Article 1*

Directive 89/686/EEC shall be amended as follows:

In Annex IV, the following wording shall be deleted:

'Additional information

— The last two digits of the year in which the CE marking was affixed; this information is not required in the case of the PPE referred to in Article 8 (3).'

*Article 2*

1. By ...<sup>(2)</sup> Member States shall adopt and publish the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with the Directive. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

When Member States adopt such laws, regulations and administrative provisions, they shall contain a reference to this Directive or shall be accompanied by such a reference when they are officially published. The way in which this reference is to be made will be decided on by the Member States.

They shall apply these laws, regulations and administrative provisions from 1 January 1997.

2. Member States shall communicate to the Commission the texts of the provisions of national law which they adopt in the field governed by this Directive.

*Article 3*

This Directive shall enter into force on the 20th day after its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

*Article 4*

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 399, 30. 12. 1989, p. 18, Directive amended by Directives 93/68/EEC (OJ No L 220, 30. 8. 1993, p. 1) and 93/95/EEC (OJ No L 276, 9. 11. 1993, p. 11).

<sup>(2)</sup> Three months from the date of adoption of this Directive.



**Amended proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision adopting an action programme for Community customs (Customs 2000) <sup>(1)</sup>**

(96/C 23/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

*COM(95) 576 final — 95/0087(COD)*

*(Submitted by the Commission pursuant to Article 189a (2) of the EC Treaty on 21 November 1995)*

Following the adoption of the opinion of the European Parliament on 25 October 1995, on first reading, on the Commission's proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision adopting an action programme for Community customs (Customs 2000), and pursuant to Article 189A of the Treaty, the initial proposal of the Commission, as contained in Document COM(95) 119 final, amended by COM(95) 451 final, is amended as follows:

**1. The first recital is amended to read as follows:**

'Whereas the completion of the internal market since 1 January 1993, the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union, the enlargement of the Union to include new States, the planned extension of the common transit procedure to include the Visegrad countries and the rapid development of trade between the Union and the rest of the world, in particular as a consequence of the GATT agreements signed in April 1994 and approved by the Council on 19 December 1994, require the clear identification and implementation of strategic guidelines, so that the role that customs services are expected to play in the European Community may be better defined;'

**2. The following new second recital is added:**

'Whereas, although the completion of the internal market has eliminated controls on goods at all the internal borders of the Community, substantial differences persist between the home markets of European countries and the European internal market; whereas the further development of the European internal market into a home market with open internal borders and a common external border by the end of this decade is therefore a matter of priority;'

**3. The following new third recital is added:**

'Whereas common protection of the external borders is a precondition for the creation of a European domestic market; whereas this decision is an essential instrument for the establishment of such a common protection; whereas in the same context the remaining barriers inside the internal market must be

eliminated, entailing the introduction of free movement of persons, the establishment of a single currency, Community protection of intellectual property, VAT based on the country-of-origin principle, mutual recognition of technical standards, the development of trans-European networks and the adoption of a statute for a European company; whereas these objectives should be attained by the year 2000;'

**4. The following new fourth recital is added:**

'Whereas, in order to emphasize the responsibility of officers employed in the customs administrations of the Member States for the implementation of Community law and policies, they should visibly wear the 12-star symbol of the European Community on their uniforms;'

**5. The 10th recital is amended as follows:**

'Whereas a first initiative has already been taken with the implementation of the Community action programme for the vocational training of officials from the customs administrations (Matthaeus) <sup>(2)</sup>; whereas, in the interim and final reports to be submitted, the Commission will consider whether establishing a Community Customs School would be an effective way of improving the training of the customs officers of the Member States in Community law;'

**6. The 12th recital is amended as follows:**

'Whereas the financing of the action programme will be shared between the Community and the Member States, and the contribution paid out of the Community budget will appear in Section III (Commission); whereas this Decision establishes, for the whole duration of the programme, a total

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No C 346, 23. 12. 1995, p. 4.

<sup>(2)</sup> Decision No 91/341/EEC of 20 June 1991 (OJ No L 187, 13. 7. 1991, p. 41).

financial allocation which constitutes the preferred reference point, within the meaning of point 1 of the declaration of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 6 March 1995, for the budgetary authority in the framework of the annual budget procedure;'

**7. The 14th recital is completed as follows:**

'Whereas this programme is based on the experience acquired during the pilot action launched by the Commission in 1994 and takes into account the findings set out in the communication of 29 March 1995 entitled "Fraud in the transit procedure, solutions foreseen and perspectives for the future" (1).'

**8. Article 1 (4) is completed as follows:**

'The monitoring and assessment procedure provided for in Article 15 shall aim to analyze the results obtained and to draw lessons for the continuation of the Community action and the further development of Community law.'

**9. A new Article 2 is added, worded as follows:**

'Article 2

**Distinctive sign identifying customs officers**

The Commission shall put forward proposals aimed at ensuring that Member States' customs officers visibly wear the 12-star symbol of the European Community on their uniforms.'

**10. Article 2 of the initial proposal becomes Article 3 and is completed as follows:**

'8. To prepare associated third countries which wish to accede to the European Union.'

**11. Articles 3 and 4 of the initial proposal are renumbered 4 and 5 respectively.**

**12. Article 5 of the initial proposal is renumbered 6 and paragraph 3 is completed as follows:**

'3. ... put in place, in order to achieve these objectives, the most suitable new working methods, equipment and materials so as to reinforce the effectiveness of controls at the external border. Where such effectiveness so requires, the Commission shall put forward proposals to harmonize controls in two respects:

- quantitatively, by approximating the frequency of controls,
- qualitatively, by encouraging the development of targeting and risk analysis techniques.

The Commission shall provide a framework for the coordination of post-clearance checks by Member States' customs authorities, in particular by developing, in partnership with those authorities, a policy for jointly organized post-clearance checks on undertakings installed in more than one Member State.'

**13. A new Article 7 is added, worded as follows:**

'Article 7

**Recovery and guarantees**

In order to improve the results obtained in the post-clearance recovery of unpaid duties or the recovery of amounts unduly paid out, the Commission shall include in the reports referred to in Article 17 its findings regarding Member States' legal provisions and the difficulties encountered by their customs authorities. The Commission shall take appropriate initiative to coordinate the action of the Member States in these areas. With the assistance of the Member States it shall also, in these reports, identify the cases in which guarantees established under Community law have been set at an inadequate level in relation to the risks incurred and shall propose any appropriate measures to safeguard the Community's financial interests.'

**14. Article 6 of the initial proposal is renumbered 8 and paragraph 2 is completed as follows:**

'2. The aim of this monitoring shall be to ensure that these rules and procedures are adapted to the protection of the legitimate interests of the Community and of its Member States while meeting the requirements of operators engaged in international trade, particularly through simplification of the said rules and procedures and by ensuring that Community customs legislation is applied with due regard for economic processes and in such a way as to avoid disproportionately high administrative costs.'

**15. Article 7 is renumbered 9 and the third sub-paragraph is amended as follows:**

'This policy shall aim in particular at:

- taking maximum advantage of existing legislative provisions, and, where necessary, amending them,
- improving the collection, analysis, distribution and exploitation of information at Community level, making the fullest use of information technology and increasing the use of computer systems by the customs services as rapidly as possible,
- removing obstacles to efficient action and cooperation in the fight against fraud, in particular with regard to the powers of enquiry of customs investigators,

(1) COM(95) 0108 final, 29. 3. 1995.

- applying effective penalties,
  - pursuing and developing coordinated actions, in particular Community investigative or control missions in third countries,
  - developing cooperation with third countries, particularly with the associated countries of eastern and central Europe, and with competent international organizations, as well as with relevant professional circles,
  - making greater use, for the benefit of the whole Community, of the capacities of Commission and Member State staffs in third countries,
  - financial monitoring of irregularities.'
16. **Article 8 of the initial proposal is renumbered 10.**
17. **Article 9 of the initial proposal is renumbered 11 and is amended as follows:**

*'Article 11*

#### **Improvements in working methods**

The Community shall support actions aimed at improving the working methods of customs administrations. In partnership with the Member States, and with priority being given to the determination of cases in which controls must be carried out before release, it shall encourage the coordinated development and application of new working methods, in particular in the following fields:

1. risk-analysis, in order to determine whether goods subject to customs control must undergo a documentary or a physical examination before release is granted;
  2. the use of audit techniques to check undertakings' accounts;
  3. simplified procedures for assigning goods to and discharging them from a customs-approved treatment;
  4. the coordinated development of the use of computerized handling of customs procedures, taking into account the current state of computerization of national administrations and the interests of Community economic operators, as well as relevant developments occurring in the international sphere. In order to assist the work of customs offices responsible for carrying out controls, the Commission shall propose measures to facilitate their access, when required, to information stored in the databases of other Member States concerning operations subject to the provisions of the Community Customs Code;
5. the conclusion of memoranda of understanding with economic operators in order to establish appropriate arrangements for controlling, checking or exchanging information or data of whatever kind which may help to protect the Community's interests.'
18. **Article 10 and 11 are renumbered 12 and 13 respectively.**
19. **Article 12 is renumbered 14 and is completed as follows:**
- 'It shall inform the budgetary authority of the content of any measures that it adopts.'
20. **Article 13 of the initial proposal is renumbered 15, and the second sub-paragraph of paragraph 3 is completed as follows:**
- 'In accordance with the principles of sound financial management and cost-effectiveness to which it is firmly committed, the Commission shall, when financing operations and organizing seminars, ensure the best value for money.'
- A new paragraph 4 is added, worded as follows:
- '4. The Commission shall, in the reports referred to in Article 17 paragraph 4, consider the desirability and possible working arrangements of a permanent European Community customs school in order to improve the training of the customs officers of the Member States.'
- Paragraph 4 is renumbered 5.
- A new paragraph 6 is added, worded as follows:
- '6. The type of training provided under the Mattheus programme for Community customs officers shall be extended to officials from the associated countries of eastern and central Europe that have recently begun to participate actively in free international trade.'
21. **Article 14 of the initial proposal is renumbered 16 and paragraph 1 is completed as follows:**
- '1. Within the framework of the implementation of Article 2 (7), the Commission shall set up actions, or give support to initiatives taken by the Member States, aimed at improving and strengthening relations between the customs administrations of the Community and operators engaged in foreign trade. The Commission shall take particular account of findings and information provided by operators engaged in foreign trade.'

## III

(Notices)

## COMMISSION

## Phare — material for the fight against fraud

## Notice of invitation to tender issued by the European Commission for a project financed in the framework of the Phare Programme

(96/C 23/09)

**Project title and number:** Technical Assistance and Procurement of Fraud-Enforcement and Precursors Monitoring Equipment under the Phare Multi-Country Customs, Transport and Drugs Programme.

**1. Participation and origin:**

Participation is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons of the Member States of the European Union and of Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

Supplies offered must originate in the abovementioned states.

**2. Subject**

Bid lot, description; programme:

lot 1: static and mobile X-ray machines; border crossings/fight against fraud;

lot 2: general search and detection equipment for use by customs; border crossings/fight against fraud;

lot 2 b: general search and detection equipment for use by customs; precursor;

lot 3: TV, video and photographic equipment, border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 4; telex machines; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 5: facsimile machines; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 5 b: facsimile machines; precursor;

lot 6: photocopiers, conference and office equipment; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 6 b: photocopiers, conference and office equipment; precursor;

lot 7: translation-interpreting equipment for use in training and conferences; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 8: computer equipment, printers and accessories; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 8 b: computer equipment, printers and accessories; precursor;

lot 9: Bulgarian radio equipment; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 10: radio communication equipment; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 10 b: radio communication equipment; precursor;

lot 11: mobile telephones and pagers; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 11 b: mobile telephones and pagers; precursor;

lot 12: portable and static weighbridges; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 13: vehicle lifts; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 14: 4-WD vehicles; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 15: estate cars; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 16: van-type vehicles and dog vans; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 17: forklift trucks and pallet lifters; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 18: drug test kits; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 19: automatic density meter; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 20: narcotic detector; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 21; gas chromatograph; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 21 b: gas chromatograph; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 22: atomic absorption spectrometer; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 23; video spectral comparator; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 24: mailgand apparatus and refractometer for alcohol testing; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 25: gamma dosimeter, personal alarm dosimeter and basic microscopes; border crossing/fight against fraud;

lot 26: tracking system; border crossing/fight against fraud.

**3. Invitation to tender dossier**

The complete tender dossier may be obtained free of charge from 'Balfour, Williamson & Co. Limited,

Roman House, Wood Street, UK-London, EC2Y 5BP, tel. (04 41 71 638 61 91, facsimile (04 41 71) 628 38 80, and offices in the Union:

A-1040 Wien, Hoyosgasse 5 [Tel. (43-1) 505 33 79/505 34 91; Telefax (43-1) 50 53 37 97; Telex 133152 EUROP A],

B-1140 Bruxelles, DG VIII/C/3, rue de Genève 12, bureau 4/15 [tél. (32-2) 299 49 30; télécopieur (32-2) 299 28 70],

D-53113 Bonn, Zitelmannstraße 22 [Tel. (49-228) 53 00 90; Telefax (49-228) 530 09 50; Telex 886648 EUROP D],

DK-1004 København K, Højbrohus, Østergade 61 [tlf. (45-33) 14 41 40; telefax (45-33) 11 12 03],

E-28046 Madrid, Paseo de la Castellana 46 [tel. (34-1) 431 57 11; telefax (34-1) 432 14 09; telex 46818 OIPE E],

GR-10674 Αθήνα, Βασιλίσσης Σοφίας 2 [τηλ. (30-1) 724 39 82, τηλεφάξ (30-1) 724 46 20; τηλεξ 219324 ECAT GR],

F-75007 Paris, 288, boulevard Saint-Germain [tél. (33-1) 40 63 38 38; télécopieur (33-1) 45 56 94 17; télex 202271 F],

FIN-00131 Helsinki, Pohois-Esplanadi 31, Pl. Box 234 [tel. (358-0) 65 64 20; telefax (358-0) 65 67 28],

I-00187 Roma, via Poli 29 [tel. (39-6) 69 99 91; telefax (39-6) 679 16 58; telex 610184 EUROMA I],

IRL-Dublin 2, 39 Molesworth Street [tel. (353-1) 71 22 44; facsimile (353-1) 71 26 57; telex 93827 EUCO EI],

L-2920 Luxembourg, ch. de Commerce 7, rue Alcide de Gasperi, BP 1503 [tél. (352) 430 11; télécopieur (352) 43 01 44 33; télex 3476 COMEUR LU],

NL-2594 AG Den Haag, E.V.D., afdeling PPA, Bezuidenhoutseweg 151 [tel. (31-70) 379 75 01; telefax (31-70) 379 88 11],

P-1200 Lisboa, Centro Europeu Jean Monnet, Largo Jean Monnet 1-10º [tel. (351-1) 54 11 44; telefax (351-1) 55 43 97; telex 18810 COMEUR P],

S-11147 Stockholm, Hamngatan 6 [tel. (46-8) 611 11 72; telefax (46-8) 611 44 35; telex 13449],

UK-London SW1P 3AT, 8 Storey's Gate [tel. (44-171) 973 19 92; facsimile (44-171) 973 19 00; telex 23208 EURUK G].

#### 4. Tenders

Should arrive at the latest on 11.3.1996 (12.00), local time, at: 'Balfour, Williamson & Co. Limited, Roman House, Wood Street, UK-London, EC2Y 5BP'. Tenders will be opened in closed session.

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### Evaluation of EU aid to the ACP, ALA and MED regions

(96/C 23/10)

Consulting firms and institutions are invited to express interest in conducting the first (desk study) phase of a major evaluation of all EU aid to the ACP, ALA and MED regions.

Details are available from Mr F. Ceriani Sebregondi, Evaluation Unit, tel. (32-2) 296 57 58, facsimile (32-2) 299 29 12.

Expression of interest should be sent, with details of experience, before 20.2.1996, by facsimile (same number) or mail, to Mr S. Doyle, Head of Evaluation Unit, rue de Genève 12, office 6/05, B-1140 Brussels.

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## Information support Euro Info Centre Network

### Open procedure

(96/C 23/11)

1. **Contracting authority:** European Commission, DG XXIII, Enterprise Policy, Distributive Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives, AN 80 4/42, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel.

Facsimile (32-2) 295 73 35.

2. (a) **Awards procedure chosen:** Open procedure.

- (b) **Form of the contract:** The Euro Info Centre network has been set up with the objective of improving access to information and advice on the internal market and other European policies for enterprises, in particular small- and medium-sized enterprises. It currently encompasses 232 Euro Info Centres (EICs) in all the Member States, Norway and Iceland.

To carry out their task, all EICs have access to a wide variety of information sources (documentation and databases from the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, etc.). DG XXIII has also set up a central structure which assists the EICs with, for instance, training, technical assistance and an information officer's service. To improve the services offered by the network, DG XXIII wishes to complement the information support by purchasing a certain number of commercial products with a particular relevance to the EIC's activities and with extra value added with regard to the existing information. These products may be provided to the network as a whole or part of it. DG XXIII intends to purchase information products on the following subjects:

lot number - subject matter:

1. EU news, current policy developments and programmes,
2. information on EU standards,
3. information on EU sources of finance,
4. commercial/financial business information,
5. establishment and development of enterprises;

sublots:

to enable a selection of complementary products within the same lot, each lot has a division into sublots based on the format of the product in the following manner:

- a. on paper,
- b. online,
- c. on CD-ROM,
- d. on diskette,
- e. other format.

The offers should be valid for 1 year, twice renewable for another year on the basis of an explicit agreement between the parties, this for a total of 3 years.

3. (a) **Place of delivery:** B-Brussels and/or at the Euro Info Centres in the 15 Member States and in Norway and Iceland.

- (b) **Nature and quantity of the products to be provided (CPV reference number):**

Nature:

information products on the following subjects:

lot number - subject matter:

1. EU news, current policy developments and programmes,
2. information on EU standards,
3. information on EU sources of finance,
4. commercial/financial business information,
5. establishment and development of enterprises;

sublots:

To enable a selection of complementary products within the same lot, each lot has a division into sublots based on the format of the product in the following manner:

- a. on paper,
- b. online,

- c. on CD-ROM,
- d. on diskette,
- e. other format.

Format: information products of any kind will be taken into account, for instance in hard copy, online, on disquette, on CD-ROM.

Content: the content needs to be of relevance to the EICs and their clients in a number or in all of the Member States and should have a particular added value with regard to the products to which they already have access. Information products of purely regional or national content and interest are not solicited.

Languages: the products should be available in at least English or French.

Quantities: as the products may be made available to part or the whole of the network, offers should be made for varying quantities: 1 copy, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 100 and 232 copies.

Duration: the contracts will have a duration of 1 year, twice renewable for another year on the basis of an explicit agreement between the parties, this for a total of 3 years.

- (c) The tenderer may tender for 1 or more lots.

4. **Time limit for delivery:** The products must be available as of 1. 4. 1996.

5. **Requests for tender documents:**

- (a) **The necessary documents may be requested by letter or facsimile sent to:** Commission of the European Communities, DG XXIII, Enterprise Policy, Distributive Trades, Tourism and Cooperatives, Unit B/1, for the attention of Ms H. Andriessen, AN 80 - 4/08, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, facsimile (32-2) 295 73 35.

- (b) **Final date for request of tender documents:** 25 days after publication of this invitation to tender in the 'Supplement to the Official Journal of the European Communities'.

6. **Receipt of tender:**

- (a) **Final date:** 52 days from the date of dispatch to the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (EUR-OP).

- (b) **Address to which tenders must be sent:** Commission of the European Communities, DG XXIII, Enterprise Policy, Distributive Trades, Tourism and Cooperatives, Unit B/1, for the attention of Mr T. de Koster, AN 80 - 4/42, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel.

The tenders must be presented in triplicate. The tenderer can send his tender:

- either by registered post to the address in 1, the date of submission being taken as the date shown by the postmark;
- or by hand delivery, either in person or by an authorized person or private courier service, to the Commission department mentioned in 6. (b) at the latest on the date mentioned in 6. (a) at 16.00.

Tenders must be placed inside 2 sealed envelopes. The inner envelope, addressed to the department mentioned in 6. (b), should be marked: 'Invitation to tender nr. XXX/96. Not to be opened by the internal mail service'. If self-adhesive envelopes are used, they must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across the taped seal.

- (c) **Language(s):** The tenders must be drawn up in 1 of the official languages of the European Community.

7. **Opening of the tenders:**

- (a) Tenderers or their representatives, with appropriate authorization and identification, may be present at the opening of the tenders. Each tenderer or his representative must fill out and sign a list of attendance at the opening session, which will be attached to the minutes of the opening session.
- (b) The opening of the tenders will take place within 15 days following the final date for receipt mentioned in 6. (a) in B-Brussels. Tenderers will be informed of the exact date, time and place of the opening session in due time.

8. Not applicable.

9. **Terms concerning financing and payment:** All prices must be quoted in ecus.

When fixing the price, tenderers must take account of the fact that, in accordance with the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities annexed to the Treaty of 8. 4. 1965

establishing a Single Commission of the European Communities, the Commission of the European Communities is exempt from all taxes and dues.

Prices must therefore be quoted free of all duties, taxes and other charges, including VAT. Tenderers who are liable for VAT must state the amount of VAT to be paid separately.

10. Not applicable.

11. **Selection criteria: minimal conditions to be fulfilled by the tenderer:** The tenderer is required to provide evidence on his position, his financial and economic standing and his technical competence.

(a) **Evidence on tenderer's personal position:** The tenderer should supply information regarding his own position by declaring that:

- he is not in a state of bankruptcy, his business activities have not been wound up or suspended, his affairs are not being administered by the court, nor has he entered into an arrangement with creditors or similar measures or is he subject of any proceedings of that nature;
- he has not been convicted of any offence concerning his professional conduct by a judgment which is not open to appeal;
- he has not been guilty of grave professional misconduct;
- he has fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or taxes;
- he is not guilty of serious misrepresentation in supplying the information required by this invitation to tender.

(b) **Financial and economic standing:** The tenderer is kindly requested to furnish:

- balance sheets of the past 3 years;
- a statement of the overall turnover and that part of turnover relating to the relevant product.

(c) **Technical competence:** The tenderer is kindly requested to provide:

- a description of his technical facilities, its measures for ensuring quality and its study and research facilities;
- samples or a detailed description of the products to be supplied.

12. **Period of validity:** The tenderer is bound to abide by the conditions of his tender for 18 months, calculated as from the date of the tender submission. The prices quoted must be firm and not subject to revision.

13. **Award criteria:** The Commission will opt for the offer which will give the best value for money on the basis of the following award criteria (by lot or subplot):

1. the price,
2. the cost of usage for the EICs,
3. the quality and completeness of the contents,
4. the relevance for the EICs and their clients,
5. the functionality, also in relation to the content,
6. the technical merit and user-friendliness,
7. the quality of the technical assistance,
8. the quality of the after-sales service.

14. Not applicable.

15. Further information can only be obtained by sending a facsimile or letter addressed to:

Commission of the European Communities, DG XXIII, Enterprise Policy, Distributive Trades, Tourism and Cooperatives, Uunit B/1, for the attention of Mrs H. Andriessen, AN 80 - 4/08, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, facsimile (32-2) 295 73 35.

16. Not applicable.

17. **Date of dispatch of the notice:** 16. 1. 1996.

18. **Date of receipt by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (EUR-OP):** 16. 1. 1996.



**MEDIA II — development and distribution (1996-2000)****Implementation of the programme to encourage the development and distribution of European audiovisual productions****Notice of call for proposals 1/96****Support with promotion and access to the market of independent European producers and distributors**

(96/C 23/12)

**1. Introduction**

This notice of call for proposals is based on the Council Decision involving the implementation of a programme to encourage the development and distribution of European audiovisual productions (MEDIA II - Development and distribution 1996-2000), adopted by the Council on 11. 7. 1995 (05/563/EEC).

Among the actions to be put into application of said Decision is the improvement to the conditions of access of independent producers and distributors to the European and international market by means of promotion, assistance and putting companies in liaison with one another, especially within the context of commercial events (markets, fairs, festivals and other forms of meetings) organized on a European and international level.

**2. Object**

This notice is aimed at European operators whose activities contribute to the aforementioned action. It details how to obtain the necessary documents in order to submit a tender with a view to obtaining a Community financial contribution for participating in

events targeting the promotion and access to the market of films and audiovisual programmes of independent European producers and distributors.

The Commission service responsible for managing this call for proposals is the MEDIA Unit of General-Directorate X, Audiovisual Media, Information, Communication and Culture.

Operators wishing to respond to this call for proposals and receive the document 'Guidelines for tendering with a view to obtaining a financial contribution in the promotion sector' must send their request by mail or facsimile to:

European Commission, Mr Jacques Delmoly, Head of the Unit, DG X/D/4, L 102 7/023, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-Bruxelles/Brussel, facsimile (322) 299 92 14.

The Commission undertakes to send the abovementioned document within 2 days following receipt of the request.

Final date for sending proposals to the abovementioned address: 19. 2. 1996.

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**CORRIGENDA****Technical assistance for the Commission of the European Communities with implementing the Media II programme — Intermediary Organization 'Distribution'**

*(Official Journal of the European Communities No C 2, 5. 1. 1996, p. 13)*

(96/C 23/13)

Commission of the European Communities, DG X 'Audiovisual Media, Information, Communication and Culture', 'Media Programme' Unit, Mr Jacques Delmoly, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel.

Tel. (32-2) 295 84 06. Facsimile (32-2) 299 92 14.

8. b) *Final date for requesting tender documents:* 4. 3. 1996.
  9. a) *Final date for receipt of tenders:* 14. 3. 1996.
  10. b) Tenders will be opened on 21. 3. 1996 (10.00), at the following address:  
102, rue de la Loi (8th floor, meeting-room), B-1040 Brussels.
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