

English edition

Information and Notices

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I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾**2 June 1999**

(1999/C 156/01)

1 euro	=	7,4317	Danish krone
	=	324	Greek drachma
	=	8,983	Swedish krona
	=	0,6443	Pound sterling
	=	1,0382	United States dollar
	=	1,54	Canadian dollar
	=	125,71	Japanese yen
	=	1,5912	Swiss franc
	=	8,2415	Norwegian krone
	=	77,4622	Icelandic króna ⁽²⁾
	=	1,6075	Australian dollar
	=	1,9689	New Zealand dollar
	=	6,43321	South African rand ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

⁽²⁾ Source: Commission.

Average prices and representative prices for table wines at the various marketing centres

(1999/C 156/02)

(Established on 1 June 1999 for the application of Article 30(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 822/87)

Type of wine and the various marketing centres	EUR per % vol/hl	% of GP °	Type of wine and the various marketing centres	EUR per % vol/hl	% of GP °
<i>R I Guide price *</i>	3,828		<i>A I Guide price *</i>	3,828	
Heraklion	No quotation		Athens	No quotation	
Patras	No quotation		Heraklion	No quotation	
Requena	No quotation		Patras	No quotation	
Reus	No quotation		Alcázar de San Juan	No quotation	
Villafranca del Bierzo	No quotation ⁽¹⁾		Almendralejo	No quotation	
Bastia	No quotation		Medina del Campo	No quotation ⁽¹⁾	
Béziers	4,531	118 %	Ribadavia	No quotation	
Montpellier	4,573	119 %	Villafranca del Penedés	No quotation	
Narbonne	No quotation		Villar del Arzobispo	No quotation ⁽¹⁾	
Nîmes	No quotation		Villarrobledo	No quotation ⁽¹⁾	
Perpignan	4,619	121 %	Bordeaux	No quotation	
Asti	No quotation		Nantes	No quotation	
Florence	No quotation		Bari	No quotation	
Lecce	No quotation		Cagliari	No quotation ⁽¹⁾	
Pescara	No quotation		Chieti	No quotation	
Reggio Emilia	4,132	108 %	Ravenna (Lugo, Faenze)	2,789	73 %
Treviso	No quotation		Trapani (Alcamo)	2,479	65 %
Verona (for local wines)	4,390	115 %	Treviso	No quotation	
Representative price	4,474	117 %	Representative price	2,745	72 %
<i>R II Guide price *</i>	3,828				
Heraklion	No quotation				
Patras	No quotation				
Calatayud	No quotation				
Falset	No quotation				
Jumilla	No quotation				
Navalcarnero	No quotation ⁽¹⁾				
Requena	No quotation				
Toro	No quotation				
Villena	No quotation ⁽¹⁾				
Bastia	No quotation		<i>A II Guide price *</i>	82,810	
Brignoles	No quotation		Rheinfalz (Oberhaardt)	36,644	44 %
Bari	No quotation		Rheinhessen (Hügelland)	40,903	49 %
Barletta	No quotation		The wine-growing region of the Luxembourg Moselle	No quotation	
Cagliari	No quotation ⁽¹⁾		Representative price	37,541	45 %
Lecce	No quotation				
Taranto	No quotation		<i>A III Guide price *</i>	94,570	
Representative price	No quotation ⁽¹⁾		Mosel-Rheingau	No quotation	
	EUR/hl				
<i>R III Guide price *</i>	62,150		The wine-growing region of the Luxembourg Moselle	No quotation	
Rheinfalz-Rheinhessen (Hügelland)	No quotation		Representative price	No quotation	

⁽¹⁾ Quotation not taken into account in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 2682/77.

* Applicable from 1.2.1995.

° GP = Guide price.

Communication from the Commission pursuant to Article 8 of Directive 93/38/EEC

(1999/C 156/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

List of services regarded as excluded from the scope of Council Directive 93/38/EEC of 14 June 1993 coordinating the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors pursuant to Article 8 thereof

Directive 93/38/EEC is applicable in particular to contracts awarded by telecommunications operators; however, its constraints are no longer justified where there is effective competition after the recent liberalisation of this sector. For this purpose Article 8 of the Directive lays down that where there is effective competition in the telecommunications services market, the procurements for the provision of these services may be exempted from the scope of the Directive. In its communication on public procurement in the European Union⁽¹⁾ the Commission indicated that it would examine whether this Article could be applied.

In a notice published on 2 September 1998 in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* (2), the Commission invited contracting entities in the telecommunications sector to notify it, under Article 8(2) of Directive 93/38/EEC, of any telecommunications services they regarded as excluded from the scope of that Directive, pursuant to Article 8(1) thereof, on the ground that other entities were free to offer the same services in the same geographical area and substantially under the same conditions (3).

Moreover, in its fourth report on the implementation of the telecommunications regulatory package (4), the Commission noted the progress achieved by the Member States in implementing the legislative framework underpinning the full liberalisation of telecommunications markets. In particular, it noted that the national regulatory authorities are operational in all Member States and have started to apply the principles set out in the regulations.

The analysis of the declarations of exemption from the contracting entities was based, on the one hand, on the

(1) 'Public procurement in the European Union', Communication of the Commission of 11 March 1998 (COM(1998) 143 final).

(2) Notice to contracting entities in the telecommunications sector (98/C 273/07) (OJ C 273, 2.9.1998, p. 12).

(3) 32 contracting entities from the Member States replied to the Commission's invitation.

(4) Communication to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (COM(1998) 594 of 25 November 1998).

factors submitted by the operators as indicating the existence, as a matter of law and of fact, of a competitive situation as referred to by the Court of Justice of the European Communities in its judgment of 26 March 1996 in Case C-392/93 *The Queen v. H. M. Treasury, ex parte British Telecommunications plc* (5) in connection with the interpretation of the same article in an earlier directive (6) and, on the other, on the progress achieved by the Member States in implementing the regulations on telecommunications and the tangible results in the Member States' telecommunications markets of effective application of the measures transposed into national law, as indicated by the data contained in the aforementioned fourth report. Liberalisation has now occurred in the telecommunications sector and effective competition exists in most Member States, despite the fact that some Member States still benefit from transitional periods as regards the implementation of the telecommunications regulatory package.

In view of the above, the Commission is publishing, for information purposes, the following list of telecommunications services exempted from the scope of Directive 93/38/EEC by virtue of Article 8 thereof. The list will be updated according to developments in the conditions of effective competition in telecommunications markets in question. The effect of the applicability of Article 8(1) is that purchases by the entities providing an excluded service within the geographical area concerned will no longer be subject to the detailed provisions of the Directive.

The categorisation of the services has been done to facilitate the task of analysing competition and to help industry understand the practical impact of the telecommunications liberalisation on the application of procurement rules. Taken together, the Commission considers that these categories cover all of the telecommunications services referred to in Article 1(14) and (15) of the Directive and comply with the terminology used in Article 1(4)(c)(ii) of that Directive.

(5) [1996] ECR I, p. 1631.

(6) Council Directive 90/531/EEC of 17 September 1990 on the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors (OJ L 297, 29.10.1990, p. 1).

Categories of services exempted	Geographical areas concerned
Public fixed telephony:	Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom
Public mobile telephony:	Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom
— satellite services	Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom
— transmission of data/value-added services (telephone cards, Internet, call-back connection)	Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom

Notice of the expiry of certain anti-dumping measures

(1999/C 156/04)

The Commission gives notice that the anti-dumping measures mentioned below have expired.

This notice is published in accordance with Article 11(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 384/96 of 22 December 1995 ⁽¹⁾ on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community, as last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 905/98 ⁽²⁾.

Product	Country of origin or exportation	Measures	Reference	Date of expiry
Ammoniumnitrate	Lithuania	Undertaking	Decision 94/293/EC (OJ L 129, 21.5.1994)	22.5.1999

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 56, 6.3.1996, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 128, 30.4.1998, p. 18.

II

(Preparatory Acts)

COMMISSION

Amended proposal for a Council Directive on end of life vehicles ⁽¹⁾

(1999/C 156/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

COM(1999) 176 final — 97/0194(SYN)

(Presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 189 A paragraph 2 of the EC Treaty on 27 April 1999)

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 337, 7.11.1997, p. 3.

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

AMENDED PROPOSAL

Recital 6

Whereas this Directive should cover vehicles and end of life vehicles, including their components and materials, without prejudice to safety standards, air emissions and noise control;

Whereas this Directive should cover vehicles and end of life vehicles, including their components and materials, without prejudice to safety standards, air emissions and noise control; whereas the Directive is confined to vehicles and end of life vehicles of category M1 and N1 as defined in Annex II (A) to Directive 70/156/EEC and two or three wheel vehicles;

Recital 7a (new)

Whereas every year end of life vehicles in the Community generate between 8 and 9 million tonnes of waste, which must be managed correctly;

Recital 16

Whereas last owners and/or holders should not bear the costs arising from end of life vehicles having negative market values; whereas producers should be given incentives to increase the recyclability and recoverability of vehicles so that end of life vehicles do not have negative market values; whereas the normal functioning of market forces should not be hindered;

Whereas last owners and/or holders should not bear the costs arising from end of life vehicles possibly having negative market values; whereas producers should be given incentives to increase the recyclability and recoverability of vehicles so that end of life vehicles do not have negative market values; whereas the normal functioning of market forces should not be hindered;

Recital 21

Whereas in order to facilitate the dismantling and recycling of end of life vehicles, vehicle manufacturers should provide treatment facilities with dismantling manuals; vehicle manufacturers and material producers should use common component and material coding standards; whereas, to this end, the preparation of European standards, where appropriate, should be promoted;

Whereas in order to facilitate the dismantling and recycling of end of life vehicles, vehicle manufacturers should provide authorised treatment facilities with all requisite dismantling information; vehicle manufacturers and material producers should use common component and material coding standards; whereas, to this end, the preparation of European standards, where appropriate, should be promoted;

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

AMENDED PROPOSAL

Article 2(12)a (new)

'Dismantling information' shall mean all information required for the correct and environmentally sound treatment of end of life vehicles. It shall be made available to authorised treatment undertakings by vehicle and component producers in the form of manuals or by means of electronic media (e. g. CD-ROM, on-line services).

Article 3(1)

This Directive shall cover vehicles and end of life vehicles, including their components and materials.

This Directive shall cover vehicles and end of life vehicles, including their components and materials. This shall apply irrespective of how the vehicle has been serviced or repaired during use and irrespective of whether it is equipped with components supplied by the producer or with other components whose fitting as spare or replacement parts accords with the appropriate Community provisions or domestic provisions.

Article 5(3)

Member States shall set up a system according to which a certificate of destruction is a condition for deregistration of the vehicle. This certificate shall be issued to the holder and/or owner when the end of life vehicle is transferred to a treatment facility. Only treatment facilities which have obtained a permit in accordance with Article 6 shall be permitted to issue a certificate of destruction.

Member States shall set up a system according to which a certificate of destruction is a condition for deregistration of the vehicle. This certificate shall be issued to the holder and/or owner when the end of life vehicle is transferred to a treatment facility, collection point or producer. Only treatment facilities, collection points and producers which have obtained a permit in accordance with Article 6 shall be permitted to issue a certificate of destruction.

Temporary deregistration without delivery of this certificate shall be permitted.

Temporary deregistration without delivery of this certificate shall be permitted on condition that evidence of correct and environmentally sound storage is provided.

Article 6(2)

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that any establishment or undertaking carrying out treatment operations shall obtain a permit from the competent authorities, in compliance with Articles 9 and 10 of Directive 75/442/EEC. The derogation from the permit requirement referred to in Article 11(1) of that Directive shall not apply to operations concerning end of life vehicles covered by this Directive.

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that undertakings which take back end of life vehicles, even if they do not carry out treatment operations (collection points) are registered with the competent authorities. Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that end of life vehicle treatment facilities and undertakings which treat end of life vehicles are approved by the competent authorities in compliance with Articles 9 and 10 of Directive 75/442/EEC and regularly inspected by them pursuant to Article 13 of Directive 75/442/EEC. The derogation from the permit requirement referred to in Article 11(1) of that Directive shall not apply to treatment of end of life vehicles covered by this Directive.

Article 6(3), preamble

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that any establishment or undertaking carrying out treatment operations fulfils at least the following obligations:

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that any collection point or facility or undertaking treating end of life vehicles fulfils at least the following obligations:

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

AMENDED PROPOSAL

Article 7(1)

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that components suitable for re-use are re-used, that components which cannot be re-used are recovered and that preference is given to recycling when environmentally viable, without prejudice to safety requirements.

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that components suitable for re-use are re-used, that components which cannot be re-used are recovered and that preference is given to recycling when environmentally viable, without prejudice to requirements regarding the safety of vehicles and environmental requirements, particularly those relating to exhaust gases and noise.

Component producers must make available to authorised treatment facilities the requisite information concerning dismantling, storage and testing of components.

Article 7(4)

In view of the responsibility of producers to ensure that vehicles are designed and manufactured in such a way as to allow the rates of re-use, recycling and recovery as set out in this Directive to be achieved by the economic operators concerned, the Council, on the basis of a proposal from the Commission, shall amend Directive 70/156/EEC so that vehicles type-approved in accordance with that Directive and put on the market after 1 January 2005 are reusable and/or recyclable to a minimum of 85 % by weight per vehicle and are reusable and/or recoverable to a minimum of 95 % by weight per vehicle. To that end, the Commission shall promote, as appropriate, the preparation of European standards relating to the dismantlability, recoverability, and recyclability of vehicles.

As it is producers who are responsible for ensuring that vehicles are designed and manufactured in such a way as to allow the rates of re-use, recycling and recovery as set out in this Directive to be achieved by the economic operators concerned, the Council and the European Parliament, on the basis of a proposal from the Commission, shall amend Directive 70/156/EEC so that vehicles type-approved in accordance with that Directive after 1 January 2005 are reusable and/or recyclable to a minimum of 85 % by weight per vehicle and are reusable and/or recoverable to a minimum of 95 % by weight per vehicle. To that end, the Commission shall promote the preparation of European standards relating to the dismantlability, recoverability, and recyclability of vehicles.

Article 8, title

Coding standards/dismantling manuals

Coding standards/dismantling information

Article 8(3)

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that producers provide dismantling manuals by 31 December 1999 which identify, as far as it is needed by treatment facilities in order to comply with the provisions of this Directive, the different vehicle components and materials, and the location of all hazardous substances in the vehicle.

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that producers provide dismantling information by 31 December 1999 which identifies, as far as it is needed by treatment facilities in order to comply with the provisions of this Directive, the different vehicle components and materials, and the location of all hazardous substances in the vehicle.

Article 9(2)

Member States shall require producers to publish information on the rates of re-use, recycling and recovery which have been achieved in the previous year for their vehicles and components. Such information shall be verified by Member States and made available to potential purchasers of vehicles.

Member States shall publish information on the rates of re-use, recycling and recovery which have been achieved in the previous year for their vehicles and components. Such information shall be obtained from producers and dismantlers, verified by Member States and made available to potential purchasers of vehicles.

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

AMENDED PROPOSAL

Article 11(1), first subparagraph

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 31 March 1999. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 30 June 2001. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

Article 13, second paragraph

Article 5(4) shall apply from 1 January 2003.

Deleted

Annex

*Technical requirements in accordance with Article 6(1)**Technical requirements in accordance with Article 6(1)*

1. Sites for storage (including temporary storage) of end of life vehicles prior to their treatment:

- impermeable surfaces for appropriate areas with the provision of spillage collection facilities, decanters and cleanser-degreases,
- equipment for the treatment of water, including rainwater, in compliance with health and environmental regulations.

1. Sites for storage (including temporary storage) of end of life vehicles prior to their treatment:

- impermeable surfaces for appropriate areas with the provision of spillage collection facilities, decanters and cleanser-degreases,
- equipment for the treatment of water, including rainwater, in compliance with health and environmental regulations particularly light fluid separators for use in the drainage of unroofed areas.

1(a) Before the removal of fluids and dismantling, end of life vehicles may be stored only in such a way as to prevent fluids from escaping and damage to components containing fluids (e.g. brake lines and oil sump) and to dismantlable components.

2. Sites for treatment:

- impermeable surfaces for appropriate areas with the provision of spillage collection facilities, decanters and cleanser-degreases,
- appropriate storage for dismantled spare parts, including impermeable storage for oil-contaminated spare parts,
- appropriate containers for storage of batteries (with electrolyte neutralisation on site or elsewhere), oil filters and PCB/PCT containing condensers,
- appropriate storage tanks for end of life vehicle fluids: fuel, motor oil, gear box oil, transmission oil, hydraulic oil, cooling liquids, antifreeze, brake fluids, battery acids, air conditioning system fluids and any other fluid contained in the end of life vehicle,

2. Sites for treatment:

- impermeable surfaces for appropriate areas with the provision of spillage collection facilities, decanters and cleanser-degreases,
- appropriate storage for dismantled spare parts, including impermeable storage for oil-contaminated spare parts,
- appropriate containers for storage of batteries (with electrolyte neutralisation on site or elsewhere), oil filters and PCB/PCT containing condensers and other components which could endanger the environment,
- appropriate storage tanks for end of life vehicle fluids: fuel, motor oil, gear box oil, transmission oil, hydraulic oil, cooling liquids, antifreeze, brake fluids, battery acids, air conditioning system fluids and any other fluid contained in the end of life vehicle,

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

-
- appropriate storage for used tyres, including the prevention of fire hazards and excessive stockpiling,
 - equipment for the treatment of water, including rainwater, in compliance with health and environmental regulations.

AMENDED PROPOSAL

-
- appropriate storage for used tyres, including the prevention of fire hazards and excessive stockpiling,
 - equipment for the treatment of water, including rainwater, in compliance with health and environmental regulations, particularly light fluid separators for use in the drainage of unroofed areas.
- 2(a) Treatment operations to remove pollutants from end of life vehicles:
- removal of the battery and fluid tanks,
 - removal of pyrotechnical components (e.g. airbags)
 - removal and separate collection and storage of fuel, motor oil, gearbox oil, transmission oil, hydraulic oil, cooling liquids, antifreeze, brake oil, fluids, battery acids and air-conditioning system fluids.
- 2(b) Treatment operations to promote recovery:
- removal of the catalytic converter,
 - removal of metal components containing copper, aluminium and magnesium, in so far as these metals are not separated during the subsequent shredding,
 - removal of tyres and large plastic components (particularly bumpers, dashboard and fuel tank).
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III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

MLIS PROGRAMME

Call for proposals for the development and demonstration of multilingual networked services and resources

(1999/C 156/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the Council Decision of 21 November 1996 adopting a multiannual programme intended to promote the linguistic diversity of the Community in the information society (hereinafter referred to as 'the MLIS programme'), the European Commission hereby invites proposals for collaborative projects aimed at furthering the availability of multilingual services and resources over global networks. This call for proposals relates to Action Lines 1 and 2 of the MLIS programme as detailed in the first annex to the Council Decision and in the programme workplan.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1. Consortia

Proposals are to be submitted jointly by a group of partners, all of whom must normally be established within the European Economic Area (EEA — the EEA comprises the Member States of the European Union plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). The partners must include at least two independent⁽¹⁾ organisations, of which at least one is established in a Member State of the European Union and at least one other is established in a different State within the European Economic Area.

Participation by third countries and international organisations may be allowed where there is a significant contribution to programme objectives and achievements, subject to the agreement of the Commission, but without financial support by the Community.

The participation of small enterprises is especially encouraged⁽²⁾. Organisations established in less favoured regions are also encouraged to participate⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Independent means that less than 25 % is owned by another enterprise or group from which it is said to be independent.

⁽²⁾ A 'small enterprise' is defined as an enterprise which has less than 50 employees and an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 7 million (or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 5 million) and which is not owned for 25 % or more of the capital or the voting rights by one enterprise, or jointly by several enterprises, falling outside the definitions of a small enterprise.

⁽³⁾ Regions eligible under Objective 1 of the Structural Funds of the EU.

2.2. Participants

Participants in projects may take one of the following roles:

- the coordinator who is a principal participant in the project and is mandated to submit the proposal, to sign and fulfil the contract with the Commission on behalf of the consortium, and who undertakes overall project management responsibility. The coordinator must furnish a copy of his statutes, a memorandum of association or similar document, and a copy of the last audited accounts,
- partners are organisations who carry out the work and contribute towards the costs and have full and equal rights to the ownership and exploitation of the results of the project. Before the start of project work, the coordinator shall conclude formal agreements with the partners to cover their participation in the project and to define as far as possible the conditions governing the exploitation of the results arising from the project,
- subcontractors undertake specific tasks under contract to a partner at normal commercial rates. Approval by the relevant Commission service is required for the subcontracting of work which exceeds 20 % of the costs of the partner placing the subcontract or where the subcontractor is established outside the EU.

2.3. General requirements

Proposals must be submitted by the coordinator on behalf of all the partners in the project

Proposals must include full details of each of the participants and signed agreements by each of the named organisations, including the coordinator, to participate in the project as described in the proposal.

Proposals must be within the scope of the call as detailed in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and which specific issues are addressed.

Proposals must clearly describe the work to be undertaken, the objectives, rationale and expected results of the project. Proposers should show how the results of the project will contribute to the objectives and achievements of the MLIS programme. In particular, they should specify performance indicators enabling both the consortium and the Commission to assess progress towards and cost-effective achievement of those objectives, and include appropriate actions for the dissemination of general interest results outside the consortium.

Proposals must specify all the tasks to be undertaken, including allocation of responsibilities among partners, detailed costings and expected deliverables. The tasks should be grouped together into work-packages, each covering one aspect of the work, for example project management, analysis and modelling of user needs, prototype development and alpha-testing, field demonstration, etc. The descriptions should make clear for each work-package what has already been done, the current state of the subject matter, the tasks to be performed and the expected outcome at the end of the project.

Proposals must provide evidence of the ability of each participant both to make a significant contribution to the proposed project and to provide the human, material and financial resources required for a successful outcome. Consortia should be of manageable size — experience has shown that international projects with many partners are often difficult and costly to manage.

Proposals must clearly describe the intended collaboration between the participants and demonstrate the suitability or transferability of the expected results in a broader European context thus justifying Community support.

The Community financial contribution under the present programme may not be cumulated with a payment from any other European Community programme or source for the same project work. The contribution may not include any payment relating to work already carried out.

3. SCOPE AND TARGET OF THE CALL

Project proposals are invited in the following areas:

- provision of multilingual language resources over global networks,
- development of multilingual networked services.

To enable Europe's linguistic diversity in the information age, there is a need to ensure a balance between major languages

and the languages used by smaller national or regional communities. Consortia are therefore encouraged to include regional and less-used languages in their proposals.

3.1. Provision of multilingual language resources over global networks

Language-based tasks, products and services depend heavily on high-quality repositories of language knowledge. Widespread availability of computer-tractable resources such as multilingual lexica, ontologies, translation memories and terminology collections is especially relevant for companies and professionals in the translation industry, for content and software localisation, language learning and business training, and for the information and communication technology (ICT) industries at large.

Proposals falling under this heading should aim at developing, demonstrating and assessing novel models, methods and processes for all-digital, across-the-network compilation, publishing, re-purposing, trading and on-demand delivery of sizeable resources of recognised user value, encompassing the broadest possible range of EU and EEA-EFTA languages, including regional and less-used languages.

In addition to the eligibility criteria detailed under point 2 the following criteria apply for project line 3.1: successful consortia will consist of multinational networks of independent centres; participating organisations are expected (a) to set up and maintain electronic directories of available resources, (b) to apply relevant standards for content coding, access and interchange, (c) to implement appropriate distribution and licensing schemes and provide user referral services, and (d) to establish collaboration agreements with other major holders of language databases of general interest. Preference will be given to proposals originating from consortia involving industrial players and user organisations from the private and public sector.

3.2. Development of multilingual networked services

The rapid deployment of Internet and Web technologies is changing the way companies do business, providing new opportunities but also giving rise to new challenges, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises. The ability to deliver, access and retrieve digital information across languages in a timely and effective way is becoming a decisive competitive factor in international trade and electronic commerce. To operate successfully in the single market and achieve global presence, companies must be able to conduct their business in the language of their customers.

Proposals falling under this heading should aim at developing, demonstrating and assessing innovative approaches and solutions for the cost-effective provision of multilingual digital content, interfaces and services. Proposals are expected

to focus on network-based business-customer relationships, and to address one or several of the following areas:

- (a) concurrent multi-language design, development and maintenance of innovative large-scale Web sites,
- (b) integrated multilingual service provision for self-help tele-services, customer support centres and other Internet-based product and customer related information services,
- (c) cross-lingual search and retrieval front-ends for information and transaction services, and
- (d) networked translation services.

Preference will be given to proposals involving companies possessing a proven experience with multilingual business practices. Successful consortia will comprise both users, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, and providers of language products and services.

4. CONDITIONS

The criteria and procedure used for the evaluation and selection of the proposals submitted in response to this call are detailed in the information package which can be obtained, along with the programme workplan and other relevant information, from the European Commission according to the instructions detailed in point 5.

5. FUNDING

The proposals retained for funding under this call will be implemented as shared-cost projects, in conformity with the rules for implementation set out in Annex III of the aforementioned Council Decision. The Community contribution may vary according to the scope and size of the project but will normally not exceed 50 % of the total cost of each project. The indicative budget available for this call in terms of Community contribution amounts to EUR 3 million.

6. MODALITIES OF SUBMISSION

- (a) An information package relating to the submission of proposals may be obtained from:

European Commission
DG XIII-E.4
Jean Monnet Building, office EUFO 0-177
Rue Alcide de Gasperi
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel. (352) 43 01 328 86
Fax (352) 43 01 349 99
E-Mail: mlis@lux.dg13.cec.be

The information package is also available on the Web server I*M EUROPE, URL:
<http://www2.echo.lu/mlis>

- (b) Proposals must be signed by an authorised representative of the consortium, and must be sent to the European Commission by registered mail (as confirmed by the postmark) or delivered by courier or by hand (as confirmed by the acknowledgement of receipt) before 6 September 1999, 4 p.m. local time (Luxembourg).

Delivery by post to:

European Commission
DG XIII-E.4
Jean Monnet Building, office EUFO 0-177
Rue Alcide de Gasperi
L-2920 Luxembourg.

Delivery by hand or courier to:

European Commission
DG XIII-E.4
Euroforum Building, office 0-177
10, rue Robert Stumper
L-2557 Luxembourg.

Fax or mail submission will not be accepted. All proposals received by the European Commission will be treated in strict confidence.