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Information and Notices

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I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾**6 October 2000**

(2000/C 284/01)

1 euro	=	7,452	Danish krone
	=	339,34	Greek drachma
	=	8,5283	Swedish krona
	=	0,6014	Pound sterling
	=	0,8703	United States dollar
	=	1,2997	Canadian dollar
	=	94,82	Japanese yen
	=	1,5252	Swiss franc
	=	8,0355	Norwegian krone
	=	73,1	Icelandic króna ⁽²⁾
	=	1,6308	Australian dollar
	=	2,1621	New Zealand dollar
	=	6,3388	South African rand ⁽²⁾

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

⁽²⁾ Source: Commission.

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty**Cases where the Commission raises no objections**

(2000/C 284/02)

Date of adoption of the decision:	19.7.2000
Member State:	Ireland
Aid No:	N 6/2000
Title:	Western Development Fund
Objective:	Development of SMEs in the agriculture sector in the western region
Legal basis:	Western Development Commission Act 1998
Budget:	IEP 5 million
Aid intensity or amount:	For seed capital: IEP 10 000 to 50 000 for early stage/ development capital: IEP 50 000 to 250 000
Duration:	2000 to 2006
Other information:	For secured investments, the EU reference rate will be applied; for unsecured investments the EU reference rate plus 400 basis points will be applied. An annual report of the scheme will be supplied to the Commission

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty**Cases where the Commission raises no objections**

(2000/C 284/03)

Date of adoption of the decision:	12.7.2000
Member State:	Belgium (Walloon Region)
Aid No:	N 567/99
Title:	Second Walloon aid scheme for inland waterway transport
Objective:	To promote the inland waterway sector through various measures accompanying liberalisation
Legal basis:	Arrêté du Gouvernement wallon du 25 juillet 1996 visant à mettre en œuvre une politique spécifique en matière de transport par voie navigable dans le cadre de l'article 32.13 de la loi du 4 août 1978 de réorientation économique tel que modifié le 27 novembre 1997
Budget:	BEF 160 million (EUR 3 966 000)
Aid intensity or amount:	— 30 % for commercial associations — 21 % for aid for the technical conversion of vessels — 30 % for transshipment equipment — 21 % for computer equipment
Duration:	2000 to 2003

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty

Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(2000/C 284/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Date of adoption of the decision: 11.4.2000

Member State: France

Aid No: N 73/2000

Title: ITEA-programme — Eureka 2023

Objective: To support European R & D software cooperation projects

Legal basis: Régime filière électronique

Budget: EUR 274 million

Aid intensity or amount: 50 % maximum

Duration: Until 30 June 2007

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Aid No: N 640/99

Title: Training aid for employees of Disneyland Paris (Eurodisney SCA)

Objective: To support a general training programme

Legal basis: Article L.951-5 du Livre IX du Code du travail; articles R-950 à 950-32 du Code du travail; circulaire n° 99-28 du 5 juillet 1999; délibération du Conseil régional d'Île-de-France CR 41/99 du 14 octobre 1999

Aid intensity or amount: 39 %; FRF 29,1 million (approximately EUR 4,44)

Duration: 36 months

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 3.5.2000

Member State: Denmark

Aid No: N 41/99

Title: Modification of a scheme for flat-rate taxation for experts recruited abroad

Objective: Attract and keep highly qualified experts recruited abroad

Legal basis: Kildeskattelovens § 48 E som affattet ved lov nr. 913 af 16. december 1998

Aid intensity or amount: Measure not constituting an aid

Duration: Unlimited

Other information: Previously approved as State aid under Article 87(3)(c), see Aid No: N 769/91, N 307/94, N 445/96

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 3.5.2000

Member State: Sweden

Aid No: N 672/99

Title: Tax relief for foreign experts

Objective: Attract highly qualified foreign experts

Legal basis: Lag om beskattning av utländska experter, forskare och andra nyckelpersoner vid tillfälligt arbete i Sverige

Aid intensity or amount: Measure not constituting an aid

Duration: Unlimited

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 3.5.2000

Member State: Spain (Navarre)

Aid No: N 141/2000

Title: Investment and employment aid (Navarre)

Objective: Regional development

Legal basis: Decreto Foral por el que se regula el régimen de ayudas a la inversión y el empleo

Budget: ESP 8 300 million (EUR 48,884 million) for 2000

Date of adoption of the decision: 3.5.2000

Member State: France

Aid intensity or amount: In assisted areas, the regional intensity ceiling resulting from the future regional aid map for Spain. Bonus of 10 percentage points gross for SME's, subject to a ceiling of 30 % net. In non-assisted areas, 15 % (small firms) and 7,5 % (medium-sized firms)

Duration: 2000 to 2006

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 5.5.2000

Member State: Germany (Bavaria)

Aid No: N 167/2000

Title: Microsystem technology programme: budget increase

Objective: To support R & D projects in microsystems and to strengthen industrial competitiveness

Legal basis: Haushaltsgesetz 1999/2000 des Freistaates Bayern

Budget: EUR 4 million (DEM 8 million) per year

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 50 % for industrial research; 25 % for pre-competitive development; no bonus

Duration: 1999 to 31 December 2003

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 16.5.2000

Member State: Sweden

Aid No: N 4/2000

Title: Small-scale electricity production

Objective: Ensure reasonable conditions for small-scale electricity production on the liberalised market

Legal basis: Förordning om stöd till småskalig elproduktion

Budget: SEK 250 million (EUR 30 million)

Aid intensity or amount: SEK 0,09/kWh (EUR 0,01/kWh)

Duration: 1 November 1999 to 31 December 2000

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 30.5.2000

Member State: Austria

Aid No: N 525/99

Title: Regional aid map

Objective: Regional aid

Duration: 2000 to 2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 31.5.2000

Member State: Austria (assisted region under Article 87(3)(a) and (c) of the Treaty)

Aid No: N 450/99

Title: Extension and modification of the regional innovation premium scheme for the period 2000-2006

Objective: Regional development: conversion of declining industrial regions; development of rural regions

Legal basis: Sonderrichtlinien für die gemeinsame Regionale Innovationsprämie — RIP 2000-2006 — des Bundes und der Bundesländer Burgenland, Kärnten, Niederösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark, Tirol

Budget: The budget will be fixed annually, with a total allocation of ATS 1,4 billion (EUR 101 741 967,84) for the period 2000-2006 (ATS 200 million per year)

Aid intensity or amount: Soft aid: 50 % gross of eligible costs. Aid for tangible investment (buildings, plant and machinery) and for intangible investment: up to 30 % gross of eligible costs, subject to the regional ceiling for the beneficiary region. The aid includes an investment premium up to the regional ceiling of 20 % or maximum 30 % gross and a premium for the creation of highly skilled jobs ('Arbeitsplatzprämie') equivalent to 10 % of the eligible costs for the tangible and intangible investment aid referred to above

Duration: 2000-2006

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 31.5.2000

Member State: Germany (Lower Saxony)

Aid No: N 762/99

Title: Aid to wastewater treatment measures

Objective: To promote development and use of wastewater treatment measures and thereby contribute to protection of resources, relief of waters and of communal purification plants

Legal basis: Landeshaushaltsordnung Niedersachsen

Budget: EUR 106,25 (DEM 212,5 million) in total over seven years; to private companies in the commercial/industrial sector in question: EUR 17,485 million (DEM 34,97 million) of which EUR 5 million (DEM 10 million) Community co-financing

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 30 % for environmental investment; bonuses: 10 % SMEs

Duration: 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 13.6.2000

Member State: Spain (Rioja)

Aid No: N 70/2000

Title: Aid to promote industrial safety

Objective: To improve industrial safety

Legal basis: Bases reguladoras de la concesión de ayudas para la promoción de la seguridad industrial

Budget: ESP 150 million (EUR 0,9 million)

Aid intensity or amount: 50 %

Duration: Indefinite

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 13.6.2000

Member State: France

Aid No: N 112/2000

Title: Small Business Development Fund

Objective: To foster SME investment with a high technology content

Legal basis: Loi de finances annuelle

Budget: FRF 530 million (approximately EUR 81 million) per year

Aid intensity or amount: 7,5 % (15 % for small firms), 10 %, 15 % or 20 % net + 10 % gross in PAT areas, 75 % net in overseas departments

Duration: Until 31 December 2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 20.6.2000

Member State: Finland (Åland Islands)

Aid No: N 821/99

Title: Åland — Aid for investment in fixed assets

Objective: Regional development

Legal basis: Näringsstödslagen för landskapet Åland (AFS 35/96)

Budget: EUR 1 million in 2000

Aid intensity or amount:

The Aid to Business Act (AFS 35/96) provides for three types of aid:

— investment aid: for the islands and rural areas, 23 % gge for firms complying with the Community SME definition and 13 % gge for other firms; in the case of Mariehamn, 15 % gge for smallfirms and 7,5 % gge for medium-sized firms;

— start-up aid for small firms: *de minimis* conditions;

— development aid: *de minimis* conditions

Duration: 2000-2006

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 20.6.2000

Member State: The Netherlands

Aid No: N 637/99

Title: Financing of the foundation 'National Sustainable Development Initiative'

Objective: To enhance knowledge and the knowledge infrastructure in the Netherlands in the field of sustainable development

Legal basis: Besluit milieusubsidies (Stb. 1998, 720)

Budget: Around NLG 10 million (EUR 4,5 million) yearly

Aid intensity or amount: 75 % for technical feasibility studies preparatory to industrial research activities; 50 % for technical feasibility studies preparatory to precompetitive development activities

Duration: 2000-2010

Other information: Annual Report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 20.6.2000

Member State: The Netherlands

Aid No: N 648/99

Title: Environmental investment deduction

Objective: To promote investments in environmental friendly equipment

Legal basis: Aanwijzingsregeling milieu-investeringsaftrek, krachtens artikel 11, eerste lid, eerste volzin, onderdeel c van de Wet op de inkomstenbelasting 1964

Budget: Around EUR 18 million yearly

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 18 %

Duration: Indefinite

Other information: Annual Report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 20.6.2000

Member State: Spain (Aragon)

Aid No: N 136/2000

Title: Regional aid

Objective: Regional development

Legal basis: Decreto del Gobierno de Aragón por el que se regula la concesión de ayudas a empresas beneficiarias de incentivos económicos regionales

Budget: ESP 1 110 670 270 (EUR 6 675 262) for 2000

Aid intensity or amount: Regional intensity ceiling resulting from the Spanish regional aid map (in the case of assisted areas, 20 % or 30 % nge)

Duration: 2000-2006

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 28.6.2000

Member State: Germany

Aid No: N 209/99

Title: Joint Federal Government/*Länder* scheme, 28th framework plan

Objective: Regional aid

Legal basis: Gemeinschaftsaufgabe „Verbesserung der regionalen Wirtschaftsstruktur“

Duration: 1 January 1999 to 31 December 2003

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 28.6.2000

Member State: France

Aid No: N 753/99

Title: Commitments for expanding training (EDDF)

Objective: To support training efforts by firms

Legal basis: Article L.951-5 du Livre IX du Code du travail, articles R.950-25 à 950-32 du Code du travail et circulaire DGEFP n° 99-28 du 5 juillet 1999

Budget: FRF 330,2 million (approximately EUR 50,3 million) for 2000

Aid intensity or amount: Between 25 % and 80 % gge, depending on size of recipient firm, region and type of training

Duration: Unlimited

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 3.7.2000

Member State: Belgium

Aid No: N 40/99

Title: Modification of the scheme 'Ecological aid'

Objective: To promote investments which reduce the environmental burden and save energy

Legal basis: De wet van 30 december 1970 betreffende de economische expansie. Het decreet van 15 december 1993 tot bevordering van de economische expansie in het Vlaamse Gewest. De wet van 4 augustus 1978 tot economische heroriëntering

Budget: BEF 1 088 million (EUR 27 million) for 1999

Aid intensity or amount: 12 % for process-integrated technics; 10 % for energy-saving technics; 8 % for end-of-pipe technics; 20 % ecological investments of small companies

Duration: Indefinite

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 3.7.2000

Member State: Austria

Aid No: N 701/99

Title: Section 51(a) AMFG (first part): aid to restructuring measures

Objective: To support investment projects undertaken by companies which are important for the employment market and regional policy and thereby save and create jobs

Legal basis: § 51 a Absatz 3—5 Arbeitsmarktförderungsgesetz (AMFG) i.V.m. Richtlinien des Bundesministeriums für Arbeit, Gesundheit und Soziales für die Gewährung von Beihilfen (Förderungen)

Budget: Around ATS 200 million per year expected (approximately EUR 14 million)

Aid intensity or amount:

Outside of regionally assisted areas: maximum 7,5 % gross to small and 15 % gross to medium-sized enterprises;

inside of regionally assisted areas: intensities according to regional aid map plus 15 % gross bonus for SMEs in areas eligible under Article 87(3)(a) of the EC Treaty, the total not exceeding 40 % net, plus 10 % gross bonus for SMEs in areas eligible under Article 87(3)(c) of the EC Treaty, the total not exceeding 30 % net

Duration: 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 7.7.2000

Member State: Austria (Styria)

Aid No: N 703/99

Title: Aid programme 'Innovations in tourism' of the *Land* of Styria

Objective: To support investments by companies and SMEs in tourism

Legal basis: Beschluss der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung vom 4.10.1999, GZ: LFVA 48.1/99-13

Budget: EUR 0,87 million (ATS 12 million) per year

Aid intensity or amount: Maximum 7,5/15 % respectively to medium-sized and small enterprises; in areas eligible under Article 87(3)(c) of the EC Treaty, intensities according to regional aid map plus 10 % gross bonus for SMEs

Duration: 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 26.7.2000

Member State: Sweden

Aid No: N 211/99

Title: Modification of the scheme 'Financing through regional development companies'

Objective: Promote the establishment and development of SMEs

Legal basis: Förordning om ändring i förordningen (1994:1100) om statlig finansiering genom regionala utvecklingsbolag, med ändringar

Budget: SEK 4 billion (about EUR 474 million)

Aid intensity or amount:

— Loans and start-up loans: measures not constituting an aid

— Development capital: 50 %

Duration: Unlimited

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 28.7.2000

Member State: Germany (Bavaria)

Aid No: N 665/99

Title: Rational use of energy aid scheme

Objective: More efficient generation and use of energy as well as energy saving

Legal basis: Haushaltsgesetz des Freistaates Bayern 1999/2000, Programmrichtlinien

Budget: EUR 20 million (DEM 40 million) per year

Aid intensity or amount: R & D aid: 50 % for basic and fundamental research; 25 % for pre-competitive development, plus bonus where appropriate; environmental aid: 30 %

Duration: Until 31 December 2004

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 28.7.2000

Member State: Austria

Aid No: N 23/2000

Title: Section 51(a) AMFG (second part): aid to restructuring measures

Objective: To help preserve companies which are important for the employment market and for local regional policy

Legal basis: § 51 a Absatz 3—5 Arbeitsmarktförderungsgesetz (AMFG) i.V.m. Richtlinien des Bundesministeriums für Arbeit, Gesundheit und Soziales für die Gewährung von Beihilfen (Förderungen)

Budget: Around ATS 100 million (approximately EUR 7 million) per year expected

Aid intensity or amount: Restructuring rescue aid: intensity not calculable; in any case not exceeding EUR 10 million for one and the same SME

Duration: Indefinite

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 28.7.2000

Member State: Spain (Aragon)

Aid No: N 190/2000

Title: Vocational training and occupational integration plan (Aragon)

Objective: To promote the work skills of human resources in Aragon

Legal basis: Decreto por el que se regula el Plan de formación e inserción profesional de Aragón

Budget: ESP 46 918 303 959 (EUR 281 984 685). The budget for the aid scheme is more limited

Aid intensity or amount: 50 % for general training (70 % for SMEs) and 25 % for specific training (35 % for SMEs). Five percentage point bonus for areas assisted under Article 87(3)(c) of the EC Treaty. Ten percentage point bonus where the persons receiving training are disadvantaged workers

Duration: 2000-2005

Other information: Annual report, N 85/99

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 28.7.2000

Member State: Spain

Aid No: N 202/2000

Title: R & D aid for experimental technologies and services for cable networks

Objective: R & D aid

Legal basis: Orden Ministerial

Budget: ESP 900 million (EUR 5,4 million) for entire period

Aid intensity or amount:

— 50 % for industrial research projects

— 25 % for pre-competitive development activities

— bonus of 10 percentage points for SMEs and for Article 87(3)(a) assisted areas and of 5 % for Article 87(3)(c) assisted areas

Duration: 2000-2003

Other information: Annual report

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty

Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(2000/C 284/05)

Date of adoption of the decision: 31.8.2000

Member State: The Netherlands

Aid No: N 122/99

Title: Agricultural structure enhancement in the Groene Hart area

Objective: Increasing the quality of the Groene Hart area, a rural area situated in the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht amid a circle of cities

Legal basis: Regeling subsidiëring kwaliteit Groene Hart

Budget:

1999 estimate: NLG 12 000 000 (of which NLG 2 000 000 for agricultural structure enhancement)

2000 estimate: NLG 10 300 000 (not yet known how much will be attributed for agricultural structure enhancement)

Aid intensity or amount:

For projects in the category agricultural structure enhancement, the subsidy amounts to 50 % of eligible costs. If the subsidies concern investments on farms, the subsidy amounts to 35 % for real estate and 20 % for movable property.

Cumulation for projects in the category agricultural structure enhancement with other aid schemes is allowed up to 75 % of eligible costs. If the project concerns investment on farms, cumulation is allowed up to 35 % for real estate and 20 % for movable property.

For discharges, the subsidy amounts to NLG 7 500 per undertaking or per connection. The Dutch authorities have assured that the eligible costs for works taking place on the undertakings will not exceed 35 %

Duration: Indefinite

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 31.8.2000

Member State: United Kingdom

Aid No: N 199/2000

Title: Amendment to countryside stewardship scheme

Objective: Amendments to the payment rate for certain items under the scheme

Legal basis: Section 98 and 99 of the Environment Act

Budget: GBP 6 000 (approximately EUR 9 600), this additional expenditure will be offset by reduced payment rates for other items

Aid intensity or amount: Capital items: Maximum 53 % of costs, Land management item: 103 % of costs and income forgone

Duration: Agreements are concluded for a minimum of five years

Other information: The measures under the countryside stewardship scheme make part of the rural development programme of all four countries of the UK, and were also submitted to the Commission for co-financing under the Rural Development Plan for 2000-2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 31.8.2000

Member State: Denmark

Aid No: N 214/2000

Title: Compensation for storm damage to fruit trees

Objective: To partially compensate for the damages to fruit trees inflicted by the storm on 3 and 4 December 1999

Legal basis: Aktstykke nr. 193 af 29. marts 2000

Budget: Nationally financed: the amounts are in million DKK for the damages by the storm on 3-4 December 1995:

Year	2000	2001	2002
Budget	4	2	2

Aid intensity or amount: Variable but maximum 75 %

Duration: Three years

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/sg/sgb/state_aids

Projects that may benefit from a Eurostat grant during the years 2000 and 2001

(2000/C 284/06)

The public is hereby informed of projects that may benefit from a Eurostat grant during the years 2000 and 2001. This publication completes the actions for the year 2000 and the priority actions in the field of statistics for the year 2001.

The electronic file, which compiles the actions concerned (classified by statistical theme, unit and accompanied by a description, more detailed information, as well as the name and details of the project officer) is to be found on the **Europa server**: <http://europa.eu.int>

In concrete terms, you can reach the page concerned via 'Welcome', 'Institutions', 'The European Commission', 'Directorates-General and services of the Commission', 'Eurostat', 'Eurostat News/Actualité Eurostat/Eurostat aktuell' (depending on the language chosen) and then enter the file '**Eurostat Grants 2000-2001**'.

Please read the information accompanying this file carefully, as the difference between the category of actions reserved for the 'European statistical system (ESS)' (for information) and the category of actions open for competition (for action) is explained.

For the latter category only, you are kindly requested to inform us of your interest in carrying out these (or some of these) actions by contacting the following address, referring to the relevant topic(s) and giving a description of your experience:

**Mr R. Lane
European Commission
Eurostat
Joseph Bech Building
5, rue Alphonse Weicker
Unit R-3
Office B4/405
L-2721 Luxembourg**

Your application will automatically be taken into account and additional and more detailed information will be sent to you on preparation of the file, allowing you, if desired, to introduce a more detailed proposal to carry out the project.

At that moment, the standard grant application form should be completed so that the usual checks can be made of the selection and award criteria defined by the Commission.

It should be noted that co-financing of the project is always required. The rate for such co-financing will be determined per project and in relation to the credits available in the units but with a *minimum of 10 % of the eligible costs*. This rate will be announced beforehand when sending out the application forms.

Deadline for sending in proposals of interest to participate: up until 16 October 2000 inclusive. Non-respect of this delay will automatically result in refusal of your application.

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.2165 — Gruner + Jahr/Publigroupe/G + J Medien)****Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2000/C 284/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 26 September 2000 the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the undertaking Gruner + Jahr AG & Co. (Gruner + Jahr), controlled by the Bertelsmann group (Bertelsmann) and Publigroupe SA (Publigroupe), acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of the undertaking G + J Medien-Vertrieb GmbH & Co. KG (G + J Medien) by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Gruner + Jahr: publishing and printing of magazines and newspapers and related online services,
- Bertelsmann: book publisher and clubs, music labels and clubs, professional information, magazines and newspapers, television, film and radio, print and media services, online services, multimedia and e-commerce,
- Publigroupe: sales and promotion of commercial communication (press advertising, advertising in printed and electronic telephone directories, interactive commercial communication, information technology and network services),
- G + J Medien: publishing and distributing of classified telephone directories.

3. On 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. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽³⁾ it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the notice.

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

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2165 — Gruner + Jahr/Publigroupe/G + J Medien, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.2179 — Compart/Falck (II))**

(2000/C 284/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 2 October 2000 the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the Italian undertaking Compagnia di Partecipazioni Assicurative ed Industriale SpA (Compart) acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the Italian undertaking Falck SpA and of its controlled undertaking Società Nordelettrica SpA (Sondel) by way of public bids.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Compart: diversified industrial activities in the agroindustrial, energetic, engineering and chemical sectors; insurance activities and ship construction,

— Falck: diversified activities in the energetic sector; steel processing and production; natural resources; Internet portals,

— Sondel: electricity generation and supply; electricity plant production and management.

3. On 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.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2179 — Compart/Falck (II), to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

Initiation of proceedings**(Case COMP/M.1853 — EDF/ENBW)**

(2000/C 284/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 2 October 2000 the Commission decided to initiate proceedings in the abovementioned case after finding that the notified concentration raises serious doubts as to its compatibility with the common market. The initiation of proceedings opens a second phase investigation with regard to the notified concentration. The decision is based on Article 6(1)(c) of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89.

The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their observations on the proposed concentration.

In order to be fully taken into account in the procedure, observations should reach the Commission not later than 15 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.1853 — EDF/ENBW, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

Withdrawal of notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.2132 — Compart/Falck)**

(2000/C 284/10)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 14 September 2000 the Commission of the European Communities received notification of a proposed concentration between Compart and Falck. On 22 September 2000 the notifying parties informed the Commission that they withdrew their notification.

Initiation of proceedings**(Case COMP/M.2097 — SCA/Metsä Tissue)**

(2000/C 284/11)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 26 September 2000 the Commission decided to initiate proceedings in the abovementioned case after finding that the notified concentration raises serious doubts as to its compatibility with the common market. The initiation of proceedings opens a second phase investigation with regard to the notified concentration. The decision is based on Article 6(1)(c) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89.

The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their observations on the proposed concentration.

In order to be fully taken into account in the procedure, observations should reach the Commission not later than 15 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2097 — SCA/Metsä Tissue, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 Brussels.

Commission's services communication concerning the complaints to the European Commission on the Swedish legislation allowing controls of postal packages and road vehicles etc. — P/1998/4478

(2000/C 284/12)

The Commission's services have investigated the complaints from some 7 000 Swedish citizens which have arrived after the Swedish legislator introduced rules allowing controls of postal packages etc. on 1 July 1998.

Concerning some types of goods (alcohol, tobacco and mineral oils), the Member States have retained the right to maintain national excise duties for private imports over certain quantities, i.e. the Member States have a right to levy excise duties (and with this right goes a certain right to control) or to verify that these excise duties actually are paid.

At the same time, Community laws do not border control of goods since the internal Market was completed on 1 January 1993. To that end, Community law forbids border controls that are systematic. Controls shall in principal only take place on the basis of suspicion.

During its investigation, the Commission services have found that the package controls as such do not delay the postal service and do not cause other hindrance to cross-border trade.

Moreover, the Swedish authorities have shown that in the control work, they have an overwhelming accuracy rate in finding untaxed goods close to 100 %.

These facts together also indicate that the controls as such may be justified.

Consequently, the Commission services consider that there is no reason to suspect that Sweden infringes Community law because of the package controls as such. The Commission will therefore propose to the Commission the closure of this case.

**COMMISSION COMMUNICATION UNDER THE PROCEDURE SPECIFIED IN ARTICLE 4(1)(a) OF COUNCIL
REGULATION (EEC) No 2408/92**

Imposition of public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services within Italy

(2000/C 284/13)

Under Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92 of 23 July 1992 on access for Community air carriers to intra-Community air routes, the Italian Government, in accordance with a proposal from the autonomous region of Sardinia, has decided to impose public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services between the following airports:

— Cagliari and Rome (Fiumicino)

— Cagliari and Milan

— Olbia and Rome (Fiumicino)

— Olbia and Milan

— Alghero and Rome (Fiumicino)

— Alghero and Milan.

1. Because Sardinia is an island, the public service obligations concerned are as follows:

1.1. MINIMUM FREQUENCY, TIMETABLING AND CAPACITY

(a) Services between Cagliari and Rome Fiumicino

— *Frequency*

At least eight flights in each direction from 1 October to 31 May, and 13 flights in each direction from 1 June to 30 September, and from 21 December to 7 January. In April, May and October, the number of flights should be at least 30 % more than in the winter.

— *Timetabling*

Cagliari-Rome — at least:

2 flights between 6.15 and 7.45,

2 flights between 13.00 and 15.30,

2 flights between 20.00 and 22.00.

Rome-Cagliari — at least:

2 flights between 7.00 and 9.00,

2 flights between 13.30 and 16.00,

2 flights between 21.00 and 23.00.

— *Capacity*

Daily capacity should be allocated as a function of the varying frequency of flights at different periods, as indicated above. Average available capacity should be 1 750 seats between Cagliari and Rome and 1 750 between Rome and Cagliari.

(b) Services between Cagliari and Milan

— *Frequency*

At least four flights in each direction from 1 October to 31 May, and seven flights in each direction from 1 June to 30 September, and from 21 December to 7 January. In April, May and October, the number of flights should be at least 30 % more than in the winter.

— *Timetabling*

Cagliari-Milan — at least:

1 flight between 6.15 and 7.15,

1 flight between 13.00 and 15.30,

1 flight between 20.00 and 22.00.

Milan-Cagliari — at least:

1 flight between 7.00 and 8.00,

1 flight between 13.30 and 16.00,

1 flight between 21.00 and 22.00.

— *Capacity*

Daily capacity should be allocated as a function of the varying frequency of flights at different periods, as indicated above. Average available capacity should be 880 seats between Cagliari and Milan and 880 between Milan and Cagliari.

(c) Services between Olbia and Rome

— *Frequency*

At least four flights in each direction from 1 October to 31 May, and five flights in each direction from 1 June to 30 September, and from 21 December to 7 January.

— *Timetabling*

Olbia-Rome — at least:

1 flight between 6.30 and 7.30,

1 flight between 13.00 and 15.30,

1 flight between 21.00 and 22.00.

Rome-Olbia — at least:

1 flight between 7.00 and 8.00,

1 flight between 13.30 and 16.00,

1 flight between 21.00 and 23.00.

— *Capacity*

Daily capacity should be allocated as a function of the varying frequency of flights at different periods, as indicated above. Average available capacity should be 650 seats between Olbia and Rome and 650 between Rome and Olbia.

(d) Services between Olbia and Milan— *Frequency*

At least four flights in each direction from 1 October to 31 May, and seven flights in each direction from 1 June to 30 September, and from 21 December to 7 January. In April, May and October, the number of flights should be at least 30 % more than in the winter.

— *Timetabling*

Olbia-Milan — at least:

- 1 flight between 6.15 and 8.15,
- 1 flight between 13.00 and 15.30,
- 1 flight between 20.00 and 22.00.

Milan-Olbia — at least:

- 1 flight between 7.00 and 9.00,
- 1 flight between 13.30 and 16.00,
- 1 flight between 20.00 and 22.00.

— *Capacity*

Daily capacity should be allocated as a function of the varying frequency of flights at different periods, as indicated above. Average available capacity should be 850 seats between Olbia and Milan and 850 between Milan and Olbia.

(e) Services between Alghero and Rome— *Frequency*

At least four flights in each direction from 1 October to 31 May, and five flights in each direction from 1 June to 30 September, and from 21 December to 7 January.

— *Timetabling*

Alghero-Rome — at least:

- 1 flight between 6.45 and 8.30,
- 1 flight between 13.00 and 16.00,
- 1 flight between 20.00 and 22.30.

Rome-Alghero — at least:

- 1 flight between 7.00 and 9.00,
- 1 flight between 13.00 and 16.00,
- 1 flight between 20.00 and 22.30.

— *Capacity*

Daily capacity should be allocated as a function of the varying frequency of flights at different periods,

as indicated above. Average available capacity should be 670 seats between Alghero and Rome and 670 between Rome and Alghero.

(f) Services between Alghero and Milan— *Frequency*

At least two flights in each direction from 1 October to 31 May, and three flights in each direction from 1 June to 30 September, and from 21 December to 7 January.

— *Timetabling*

Alghero-Milan — at least:

- 1 flight between 6.30 and 8.30,
- 1 flight between 20.00 and 22.30.

Milan-Alghero — at least:

- 1 flight between 7.00 and 9.00,
- 1 flight between 20.00 and 22.30.

— *Capacity*

Daily capacity should be allocated as a function of the varying frequency of flights at different periods, as indicated above. Average available capacity should be 340 seats between Alghero and Milan and 340 between Milan and Alghero.

1.2. AIRCRAFT USED

Each of the aircraft used in the guaranteed timetable slots should have a minimum capacity of 140 seats. The aircraft used for the other flights, up to the minimum number of flights required, can be smaller provided that the minimum daily capacity for each route mentioned above is attained.

1.3. FARES

The fare structure for each of these routes must include a full economy class fare without restrictions and a subsidised fare. Neither can be more than the cost of a single one-way fare including VAT but not including airport taxes, as given below.

Route	Full fare (ITL)	Subsidised fare (ITL)
Cagliari-Rome	128 000	65 800
Cagliari-Milan	178 000	82 400
Olbia-Rome	117 000	65 800
Olbia-Milan	178 000	82 400
Alghero-Rome	128 000	65 800
Alghero-Milan	178 000	82 400

Each year the Italian Government shall review these maximum fares according to the rate of inflation in the previous year as based on general ISTAT consumer price index statistics. The revised rates are notified to all carriers operating those particular routes and come into force following publication by the Commission in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

If there is a sudden abnormal increase in the cost factors affecting operation of these air routes which is outside the control of the carriers, rates can be increased in proportion to that increase. The new rates must be notified to all carriers operating the routes in question, and to the Commission of the European Communities for publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

The new rates come into force following publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

The subsidised rates at the levels specified above must be applied to at least:

- residents of Sardinia,
- Sardinian emigrants living outside Sardinia,
- the disabled,

- young people aged between 2 and 25,
- old people of more than 70 years of age,
- university students up to the age of 27.

1.4. CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

Except in cases of *force majeure*, the number of flights cancelled for reasons directly attributable to the carrier must not exceed 1 % of the number of flights scheduled in each IATA season.

The carrier must guarantee services for at least 12 consecutive months and must give six months' notice before discontinuing these services.

Community carriers are informed that failure to comply with the abovementioned obligations in respect of operation of the services in question may result in administrative or penal sanctions.

2. According to Article 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 95/93 of 18 January 1993 on common rules for the allocation of slots at Community airports, the Italian authorities have decided to reserve certain slots at the airports of Fiumicino and Milan. For flights to Milan, there must be compliance with the rules issued by the Italian authorities in its Decree of 3 March 2000.

III

(Notices)

EUROPEAN TRAINING FOUNDATION

NOTICE TO READERS

(2000/C 284/14)

Statement of income and expenditure of the European Training Foundation for the 2000 financial year

The budget and the establishment plan are available on Internet at the following address:

<http://www.etf.eu.int>
