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Information and Notices

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I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates (1)

12 January 2001

(2001/C 11/01)

7,4667 8,857 0,6408	Danish krone Swedish krona Pound sterling
0,9545	United States dollar
1,4244	Canadian dollar
112,35	Japanese yen
1,5410	Swiss franc
8,185	Norwegian krone
80,21	Icelandic króna (²)
1,7003	Australian dollar
2,1152	New Zealand dollar
7,4642	South African rand (²)
	8,857 0,6408 0,9545 1,4244 112,35 1,5410 8,185 80,21 1,7003 2,1152

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

⁽²⁾ Source: Commission.

Publication of an application for registration pursuant to Article 6(2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin

(2001/C 11/02)

This publication confers the right to object to the application pursuant to Article 7 of the abovementioned Regulation. Any objection to this application must be submitted via the competent authority in the Member State concerned within a time limit of six months from the date of this publication. The arguments for publication are set out below, in particular under 4.6, and are considered to justify the application within the meaning of Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92.

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2081/92

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION: ARTICLE 5

PDO () PGI (x)

National application No 65

1. Responsible department in the Member State

Name: Subdirección General de Denominaciones de Calidad, Dirección General de Alimentación, Secretaría General de Agricultura y Alimentación del Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación, España.

Address: Paseo Infanta Isabel, 1, E-28071 Madrid.

Tel. (34) 913 47 53 94

Fax (34) 913 47 54 10

2. Applicant group

- 2.1. Name: Asociación de Cultivadores de Alcachofa de Tudela e industrias pertenecientes a las asociaciones Agrucon y Consebro.
- 2.2. Address: Camino Caritat, 2, 1º, E-31500 Tudela.

Tel. (34) 948 82 00 24

Fax (34) 948 82 02 00

- 2.3. Composition: producer/processor (x) other ()
- 3. **Type of product:** Artichokes for consumption fresh or preserved. Category 1.6 Fresh and processed vegetables.

4. Specification

(Summary of requirements under Article 4(2))

- 4.1. Name: 'Alcachofa de Tudela'.
- 4.2. **Description:** The geographical indication will protect artichoke flowers or 'heads' of the cultivar Blanca de Tudela grown from Cynara scolymus L, marketed fresh or preserved.

Artichokes marketed fresh will be of 'Extra Class' or 'Class I', as described in Annex II to Commission Regulation (EC) No 963/98 of 7 May 1998 which lays down marketing standards for fresh artichokes. The artichokes may be presented with the stalk (with a stem 18 cm long and one or two whole leaves) and sold in the traditional way in bunches of 12 without stalks (with a stem only 10 cm long) and sold by weight.

Preserved artichokes, marketed in the form of whole or halved hearts, are produced without acidification, the finished product having a pH value of not less than 5,0.

4.3. **Geographical area:** The production zone comprises 33 areas in the south and south-west of Navarre, 32 of which are in agricultural district V (Ribera) and one in agricultural district IV (Navarra Media). Preservation may be carried out anywhere in Navarre, although 95 % of the processing industry is located in the production zone itself.

4.4. **Proof of origin:** Ribera has traditionally produced vegetables, whose quality and special characteristics have made them justly renowned and appreciated throughout the northern half of Spain.

The artichoke, which has been grown on the irrigated land of Tudela since medieval times, is highly prized throughout Ribera and, along with white asparagus, is Navarre's best-known vegetable product.

The zone's farmers, through a continous process of selective growing since the beginning of the century, have produced a registered cultivar, the *Blanca de Tudela*, that is the basis for production in most of Spain.

4.5. **Method of production:** The protected artichoke is an annual crop, although artichokes for preserving may be biennial.

By annual crop it is meant that the plant is pulled after one year in the ground, from August of one year to July of the following year. The crop is biennial when it is pulled two years after planting.

Planting is carried out using the cultivar *Blanca de Tudela* obtained from a nursery entered in the Official Register of Seed and Plant Producers, Traders and Importers. The crop must always be irrigated. Harvesting is by hand and on a continuous basis, selecting the heads ready for consumption.

Preserving is carried out without the use of acidifiers, the product being sterilised by heat. The pH value of the preserved product is similar to that of the fresh artichoke and is never less than 5,0. The look and, above all, the organoleptic qualities of the preserved product are remarkably close to those of the fresh product in its traditional culinary preparation.

4.6. *Links:* Artichokes are grown in the alluvial plains and particularly on the lower terraces of the Rivers Ebro, Ega and Aragón and its tributary the Arga, the most suitable soils being of medium texture, without stones, rich in lime, cool and well drained.

A great effort is put into irrigation as a means of overcoming the natural shortage of rainfall in the zone and of managing the crop, rather than with the aim of obtaining high yields.

The zone's climate, with cold winters and mild springs, allows for much slower production than in zones producing earlier crops, allowing for a production system that gives a better quality product. Artichokes, production of which began in Navarre under the Arab occupation, has for centuries been one of the main irrigated crops in Tudela and is one of the characteristic ingredients of *menestra*, a typical stew that is highly appreciated during the spring months and perhaps the leading representative of Ribera de Navarre cuisine.

4.7. Inspection body:

Name: Consejo Regulador de la Indicación Geográfica Protegida 'Alcachofa de Tudela'.

- Address: Carretera del Sadar, s/n, Edificio 'El Sario', E-31006 Pamplona.
- Tel. (34) 948 23 85 12
- Fax (34) 948 23 20 70

The Regulatory Council is able to fulfil the requirements of EN 45011.

- 4.8. *Labelling:* All packaging used for the protected product, both fresh and preserved, must carry in a prominent position the numbered label bearing the PGI logo, to be supplied exclusively by the inspection body, the Regulatory Council.
- 4.9. National requirements:
 - Law No 25/1970 of 2 December 1970 and the Regulation implementing that Law, approved by Royal Decree 835/1972 of 23 March 1972. Royal Decree 728/1998 of 8 July 1998 and Royal Decree 2654/1985 of 18 December 1985 transferring powers from the Central Government to the Autonomous Community of Navarre.
 - Royal Decree No 1643/1999 of 22 October 1999 laying down rules on the processing of applications for entry in the Community register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications.

EC No: G/E/00139/2000.07.03.

Date of receipt of the full application: 3 July 2000.

Notice of the impending expiry of certain anti-dumping measures

(2001/C 11/03)

1. The Commission gives notice that, unless a review is initiated in accordance with the following procedure, the anti-dumping measures mentioned below will expire on the date mentioned in the table below, as provided in 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.

2. Procedure

Community producers may lodge a written request for a review. This request must contain sufficient evidence that the removal of the measures would be likely to result in a continuation or recurrence of dumping and injury.

Should the Commission decide to review the measures concerned, importers, exporters, representatives of the exporting country and Community producers will then be provided with the opportunity to amplify, rebut or comment on the matters set out in the review request.

3. Time limit

Community producers may submit a written request for a review on the above basis, to reach the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for Trade (Division B-1), rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Brussels $(^2)$, at any time from the date of the publication of the present notice but no later than three months before the date mentioned in the table below.

4. This notice is published in accordance with Article 11(2) of Regulation (EC) No 384/96 of 22 December 1995.

Product	Country(ies) of origin or exportation	Measures	Reference	Date of expiry
Unwrought pure magnesium	Russia Ukraine	Duty	Regulation (EC) No 1347/96 (OJ L 174, 12.7.1996)	13.7.2001
		Undertaking	Commission Decision 96/422/EC (OJ L 174, 12.7.1996)	

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 56, 6.3.1996, p. 1, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2238/2000 (OJ L 257, 11.10.2000, p. 2).

⁽²⁾ Telex COMEU B 21877; fax (32-2) 295 65 05.

COMMISSION OPINION

of 15 December 2000

concerning the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste from the partial dismantling of the Monts d'Arrée nuclear power station in France, in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty

(2001/C 11/04)

(only the French text is authentic)

On 26 April 2000 the European Commission received from the French Government, in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty, general data relating to the plan for the disposal for radioactive waste resulting from the partial dismantling of the Monts d'Arrée nuclear power station.

On the basis of these data and clarification subsequently provided by the French Government, and following consultation with the group of experts, the Commission has drawn up the following opinion.

- (a) The distance between the facility and the nearest border (with the Channel Island of Jersey) is 180 km, and the closest Member States are the United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain and Belgium, at 220, 510, 530 and 540 km respectively.
- (b) Under normal operating conditions, the discharges of gaseous effluents are not liable to cause an exposure of the population in other Member States that is significant from the health point of view. The liquid wastes are disposed of at the Saclay effluent treatment plant (CEA).
- (c) Solid radioactive waste from the dismantling operations is being stored on-site until disposal at national waste facilities (Centraco, ANDRA and a national, very low-level waste facility that should be available in 2003). The experts recommend that checks on conventional waste, that are carried out as a precautionary measure to confirm the absence of contamination, be such that at the same time compliance with the clearance criteria laid down in the basic standards Directive (Council Directive 96/29/Euratom) is ensured.
- (d) In the event of unplanned discharges of radioactive effluent which may follow an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the general data, the doses likely to be received by the population in other Member States would not be significant from the health point of view.

In conclusion, the Commission is of the opinion that the implementation of the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste, resulting from the partial dismantling of the Monts d'Arrée nuclear power station, both in normal operation and in the event of an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the general data, is not liable to result in the radioactive contamination, significant from the point of view of health, of the water, soil or airspace of another Member State.

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.2185 — Océ-Technologies/Real Software/Océ-Real Business Solutions (JV))

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2001/C 11/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 9 January 2001 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 undertakings Océ-Technologies BV (Netherlands), belonging to the group Océ NV (Océ) and Real Software Group NV (Belgium, Real Software) acquire, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, joint control of the undertaking Océ-Real Business Solutions BV (Océ-Real) by way of purchase of shares in and transfer of assets to a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
- Océ: presentation, reproduction and distribution of paper-based information, copier and printer systems,
- Real-Software: information technology, automation,
- Océ-Real: business document generation solutions.

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.2185 — Océ-Technologies/Real Software/Océ-Real Business Solutions (JV), 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.

^{(&}lt;sup>3</sup>) OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.

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

Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(2001/C 11/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Date of adoption of the decision: 18.10.2000

Member State: Portugal

Aid No: NN 99/2000

Title: Temporary cessation of fishing on the expiry of the fishing agreement with Morocco (extension)

Objective: To compensate for the loss of earnings of shipowners and crews of vessels operating in Moroccan waters as a result of the temporary cessation of fishing on the expiry of the fishing agreement with the Kingdom of Morocco

Legal basis: Projecto de portaria que prorroga o regulamento do regime de apoio à cessação temporária de actividade das embarcações e tripulantes que operam ao abrigo do Acordo de Cooperação em matéria de pesca entre a Comunidade Europeia e o Reino de Marrocos

Budget: PTE 451 million for shipowners (approximately EUR 2 249 579) and PTE 663 million for crews (approximately EUR 3 307 030)

Aid intensity or amount: Scales and rates of assistance specified in the guidelines for the examination of State aid to fisheries and aquaculture (OJ C 100 of 27.3.1997) and in Council Regulation (EC) No 2468/98 (OJ L 312 of 20.11.1998) for the allowance for shipowners; and PTE 134 000 (approximately EUR 670) monthly for crew members

Duration: July to December 2000

Other information: Performance 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: 7.12.2000

Member State: Netherlands

Aid No: N 301/2000

Title: Reduction of fishing report

Objective: To reduce overcapacity in the Ysselmeer

Legal basis:

Kadersubsidieregeling van het ministerie van landbouw, natuurbeheer en visserij

Tijdelijke regeling capaciteitsvermindering IJsselmeervisserij 2000

Budget: EUR 3,72 million

Aid intensity or amount:

Reduction of fishing in the Ysselmeer: NLG 500 per eel farm.

Cessation of fishing activities in the Ysselmeer: NLG 100 000 per licence

Duration: Once it has been approved by the Commission, the regulation will be adopted and published in the Nederlandse Staatscourant (Dutch official gazette). A single four-week period will then be laid down for the submission of applications. The regulation will be replaced once all the applications have been processed

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

(2001/C 11/07)

Date of adoption of the decision: 12.12.2000

Member State: Italy (Lombardy)

Aid No: N 49/2000

Title: Rules on regional assistance to agriculture

Objective: To set up a framework for assistance in Lombardy's agricultural sector in response to the changes brought about by the policies and sectoral rules adopted by the European Union and Italy

Legal basis: Legge n. 7/2000 «Norme per gli interventi regionali in agricoltura»

«Delibere» della Giunta regionale della Lombardia nn. 283, 961 e 966

Budget: ITL 100 billion (approximately EUR 50 million)

Aid intensity or amount: Varies according to the measures (some measures do not constitute State aid within the meaning of Article 87(1) of the Treaty)

Duration: From one to seven years depending on the measures

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: 12.12.2000

Member State: Italy

Aid No: N 74/2000

Title: Programme of technical assistance for the rationalisation of production in the beekeeping sector

Objective:

Improvement of the production and marketing of honey, through the following measures:

- (a) training of experts on apicultural undertakings;
- (b) dissemination of knowledge on the technical-economic aspects of apicultural undertakings;
- (c) improvement of techniques of sanitary defence through technical assistance;
- (d) study and monitoring of diseases;

- (e) study of the relationship between apicultural undertakings and the market, in view of improving marketing;
- (f) research on the structures and on the productions of apicultural undertakings

Legal basis: Bilancio dello Stato. Ministero delle Politiche agricole e forestali. Programma di assistenza tecnica per la razionalizzazione produttiva nel settore apistico

Budget: ITL 1 500 000 000 (approximately EUR 750 000)

Aid intensity or amount: 100 %

Duration: One year (year 2000)

Other information: The measure will be implemented in accordance with the explanations and the undertakings provided by the national authorities in their letters dated 3 February, 11 May, 12 July and 9 October 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: 12.12.2000

Member State: Austria (Niederösterreich)

Aid No: N 119/2000

Title: Promotion of the improvement of cattle breeding in Niederösterreich

Objective: Improve cattle breeding in Niederösterreich

Legal basis: Richtlinie für die Förderung der Qualitätsverbesserung der Niederösterreichischen Rinderzucht — "NÖ — Genetik-Programm"

Budget: EUR 800 000 per year

Aid intensity or amount: Variable

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: 6.12.2000

EN

Member State: Italy (Veneto)

Aid No: N 130/2000

Title: Plan to prevent pollution and clean up water in the catchment area emptying into the Venice lagoon — agriculture and livestock measures

Objective: To protect and improve the natural environment

Legal basis: Deliberazione della Giunta regionale del Veneto n. 5088 del 28.12.1999, concernente interventi a favore del settore agricolo e zootecnico in attuazione del «Piano per la prevenzione dell'inquinamento ed il risanamento delle acque del bacino idrografico della laguna di Venezia»

Budget: ITL 30 000 000 million (approximately EUR 15 493 707), including the measures carried out by the Consorzi di Bonifica (land improvement cooperatives)

Aid intensity or amount:

Variable:

- 40 % (50 % in less favoured areas)

 — 45 % (55 %) for young farmers within five years of setting up

Higher in the cases, and within the limits, allowed under point 4.1.2.4 of the Community guidelines for State aid in the agriculture sector (OJ C 28, 1.2.2000, p. 2)

Duration: Indefinite

Other information: The measure will be implemented in accordance with the explanations and the undertakings provided by the Italian authorities in their letter dated 26 October 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: 12.12.2000

Member State: Denmark

Aid No: N 134/2000

Title: Aid for combat against salmonella in chickens and eggs — amendment of an existing scheme

Objective: The notified measure concerns a nationally financed amendment of an existing scheme to pay compensation to producers of fowl and eggs in connection with outbreaks of salmonella.

Legal basis:

Bekendtgørelse om bekæmpelse af salmonella i rugeægsproducerende høns og opdræt hertil.

Bekendtgørelse om bekæmpelse af salmonella i konsumægshønsehold og opdræt hertil.

Bekendtgørelse om driftstabserstatning ved aflivning af høns i forbindelse med bekæmpelse af salmonella

Budget: DKR 61 000 000 (EUR 8 000 000)

Aid intensity or amount: Variable

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

Date of adoption of the decision: 12.12.2000

Member State: Spain (Murcia)

Aid No: N 154/B/2000

Title: Regional aid for restructuring SMEs involved in the processing of agricultural products covered by Annex I to the Treaty

Objective: To restructure SMEs involved in the processing of agricultural products covered by Annex I to the Treaty and experiencing difficulties

Legal basis: Ley de la Asamblea regional 6/86 de 24 de mayo, de creación del Instituto de Fomento de la Región de Murcia y Convocatorias anuales de ayudas publicadas en el BOE de la región de Murcia

Budget: EUR 20 million

Aid intensity or amount: Up to EUR 4 million per recipient

Duration: 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: 30.11.2000

Member State: Belgium

Aid No: N 229/2000

Title: Aid from Hainaut province towards the computerisation of farm holdings

Objective: To improve the management of farms and producer groups

Legal basis: Projet de règlement provincial d'aide à l'informatisation des exploitations agricoles

Ontwerp van provinciale verordening inzake steun voor de informatisering van de landbouwbedrijven

Budget: EUR 100 000 to 150 000 in 2001-2003, afterwards reduced

Aid intensity or amount: Maximum 40 %

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: 12.12.2000

Member State: Spain (Asturias)

Aid No: N 256/2000

Title: Aid to introduce new machine and agricultural equipment technology

Objective: To promote the introduction of new machine and agricultural equipment technology and joint use of machines

Legal basis: Proyecto de Resolución por la que se establecen ayudas para la promoción de nuevas tecnologías en maquinaria y equipos agrarios

Budget: ESP 40 million (EUR 240 404,84)

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 40 %

Duration: 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

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

SCRE/111577/C/G

Euromed Heritage II

issued by the European Commission for projects financed by the European Community

(2001/C 11/08)

1. Publication reference

SCRE/111577/C/G.

2. Programme and financing source

Programme: Euromed Heritage II — Regional programme in support of the development of the Euro-Mediterranean cultural heritage (second phase).

Budget line: B7/4100, MEDA (measures to accompany the reforms to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries).

3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

- (a) Nature of activities: Projects should be aimed at launching regional cooperation projects in the field of Euro-Mediterranean cultural heritage. Their specific objective should be to increase the capacity of Mediterranean countries to manage and develop their cultural heritage. Priority should be given to processes of learning, exchanging experiences and experimenting, in view of creating favourable conditions for the conservation and development of cultural heritage.
- (b) *Geographical area*: The geographical scale of the proposed activities should be that of the whole Mediterranean region or of a sub-region (¹).
- (c) *Maximum project duration*: The duration of a project may not exceed 36 months.

For details, see the 'Guidelines for applicants' referred to in point 13.

4. **Overall amount available for this call for proposals:** EUR 24 million.

5. Maximum and minimum grant amounts

- (a) Minimum grant for a project: EUR 500 000;
- (b) Maximum grant for a project: EUR 3 000 000;
- (c) Maximum proportion of project costs to be covered by Community funding: 80 %.

6. Maximum number of grants to be awarded

A maximum of 16 grants may be awarded.

7. Eligibility: who may apply

Applicants must comply with the following conditions in order to be eligible for a grant:

- be non-profit-making,
- be private or public sector operators, non-governmental organisations, research institutes, universities, cultural associations, or local authorities,
- have their headquarters within the European Union and/or in a beneficiary country covered by the budget line under which the application is to be funded,
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the project, not acting as an intermediary,
- applicants must act in consortium with partner organisations as specified hereafter:

Applications may only be submitted by organisations coming from at least two European Union countries and a group of Mediterranean organisations covering the largest possible number of Mediterranean partners. Partners of applicants must satisfy the same eligibility criteria as those for applicants.

^{(&}lt;sup>1</sup>) The 12 Mediterranean partners, following the Barcelona Declaration, are: Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and the Palestinian Authority.

8. Award criteria

For details, see section 2.3 of the guidelines for applicants mentioned in point 13.

9. Applications format and details to be provided

Applications must be submitted using the standard application form attached to the guidelines for applicants mentioned in point 13, whose format and instructions must be strictly observed.

For each application, the applicant must supply one signed original and seven copies.

10. Deadline for applications

The deadline for reception of applications is 30 April 2001, at 16.00.

Any application received after the deadline will be automatically rejected, even if the postmark indicates a date preceding the deadline.

11. Addresses for applications

For details, see section 2.2.2 of the guidelines for applicants mentioned in point 13.

12. Information to be indicated on the application envelope

For details, see section 2.2.2 of the guidelines for applicants mentioned in point 13.

13. Detailed information

Detailed information on this call for proposals is contained in the guidelines for applicants, which is published together with this notice on the Internet website of the SCR:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/scr/tender/index_en.htm

All applicants are encouraged to consult the above Internet web page regularly before the deadline for applications since the Commission will publish the most frequently asked questions and the corresponding replies.

Any questions regarding this call for proposals should be sent by e-mail (including the publication reference of this call for proposals shown in point 1) to:

- for procedural, contractual and administrative questions: SCR
 E-mail: Dominique.Dumont@cec.eu.int
 Fax (32-2) 296 53 36,
- for technical questions and for identification of potential partners: DG RELEX E-mail: Johannes.Gehringer@cec.eu.int.

Call for proposals for the support of international non-governmental youth organisations

(2001/C 11/09)

1. Context

Article A-3029 of the General Budget of the European Communities provides for support for international non-governmental youth organisations working in a European context. In a resolution it passed in 1991, the European Parliament encouraged such support.

2. Objective

The main objective of the grants is to encourage the European development of international non-governmental youth organisations and the organisation by them of activities of European interest involving and/or benefiting young people.

The grants are intended primarily to help cover operating costs associated with the organisation and execution of programmes of activities in a European context.

3. Budget available

The budget available is EUR 1,4 million which should enable the Commission to support between 80 and 140 organisations (see also point 6.2 below).

4. Selection criteria

Only duly completed applications will be taken into consideration (see point 8 below).

4.1. Eligibility of applicant organisations

Proposals will only be examined if they come from international organisations which:

 have their own legal status (i.e. as distinct from that of component member organisations) at the time the application is submitted,

- are non-governmental,
- are non-profit-making,
- are primarily intended to benefit young people; organisations not working solely for young people but whose programme of activities includes youth activities may be considered, provided the grant contributes to the maintenance and development of these youth activities,
- have member organisations active in at least eight Member States of the European Union, or six Member States and six further European countries from the following:
 - EFTA members of the EEA: Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway,
 - applicant countries: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Turkey.

There are two possible exceptions to this rule:

- organisations which have never received support under Article A-3029 must have member organisations active in at least six EU countries at the time the application is submitted and make arrangements to be represented in at least eight Member States of the European Union by the end of 2001,
- consideration may possibly be given to organisations able to substantiate that the nature of their objectives and their membership criteria mean that they are unable to be present in eight EU countries, but are present in six or seven EU countries; they must give the reasons why they are unable to extend their network to cover at least eight EU countries.

The location of the registered office of the applicant organisation will not be an eligibility criterion.

- themselves organise (or actively help to organise) activities in a European context of benefit to young people (including activities other than international competitions),
- benefit from co-financing of at least 20 % of their total annual budget from sources other than the European Union's budget,
- have sent their funding application before the deadline fixed in point 8 below.

In the event of parallel applications from a European organisation and an organisation more widely represented geographically with the same members in those countries (or a majority thereof) of the European Union represented and with similar objectives, only one grant will be awarded and in principle priority will be given to the European structure. Where appropriate, the organisations concerned will agree to submit only one application. 4.2. Technical and financial capacity of applicant organisations

The Commission will also make the selection on the basis of the financial and technical capacity of the applicant organisation to carry out the proposed programme, *inter alia*, on the basis of the analysis of the following documents:

- the 2000 activity report,
- the financial statement for 2000 (this is only required from organisations which received a grant under A-3029 in 2000).

Organisations which have already received grants under A-3029 and have experienced difficulties in using these grants may be ruled out.

5. Criteria for awarding of grants

The Commission will award the grants and decide on their amounts on the basis of the following criteria:

- the quality and the scale of the programme of European activities involving young people or leaders/people in charge of groups of young people, or of benefit to young people, and organised directly by the organisation submitting the application or with a contribution from it (number and type of activities, number of participants, publications, languages used, etc.),
- the nature of the European youth activities: priority will be given to organisations proposing individual or group mobility activities for young people, youth information activities, particularly with regard to European integration and the opportunities stemming therefrom for young people; in particular, any project promoting, directly or indirectly, messages which are contrary to the Union's policies, or associated with a negative image, will be rejected,
- the European dimension and multiplier effect, i.e. the number of EU, EFTA or applicant countries in which the organisation is represented, the number of young members active in those countries and the probable impact of the programme of activities on the target groups,
- for organisations which received a grant in 2000 under Article A-3029, the activity reports and financial statements for 2000. These will be decisive for the purposes of the decision on the award and the amount of the grant,
- the reasonableness of the estimated budget (and of the grant requested from the Commission) in relation to the planned activities,
- the organisation's actual financial requirements,
- the budgetary resources available to the Commission.

The description of the programme of activities must detail how the Community support will be made visible by the beneficiary organisation.

6. Financial conditions

- 6.1. Grants are awarded on a strictly annual basis and establish no entitlement for subsequent years. This call for proposals corresponds to grants to be awarded for 2001.
- 6.2. The amount of the grant will not be more than EUR 25 000.

Furthermore, the grant may not exceed 20 % of the organisation's annual operating costs for 2001 (see point 6.4 below), except for organisations whose operating budget for 2001 is less than EUR 50 000. In this case, the grant may amount to a maximum of EUR 10 000, but may not exceed 50 % of the operating costs.

The grant will be a set amount and will not be calculated automatically as a fixed percentage of operating costs.

For information, the average amount of the grants awarded in 2000 was EUR 14 000, and the organisations submitting their first application received a grant of between EUR 5 000 and 11 000.

6.3. The grant application will include an estimate of the organisation's operating costs for 2001, based on actual costs incurred in 2000 and on the infrastructure required for carrying out the programme of activities in 2001. The total of these estimated operating costs will be equal to the total of sources of funding for those expenses.

If the programme of activities set out in the funding application is not carried out by the beneficiary, the amount of the grant will be reduced.

In addition, given that the grant must not give rise to any profit, the Commission will take account of all income used for funding both operating costs and the organisation's activities in 2001. To this end, at the beginning of 2002 the beneficiaries will submit the organisation's annual general accounts showing its overall expenditure and corresponding overall income for 2001.

- 6.4. In fixing the maximum amount of the grant which it will give, the Commission will take account of the operating budget presented by the applicant organisation. In its analysis, only the following operating costs incurred in 2001 will be taken into account, in so far as they are essential to the smooth running of the organisation and to the conduct of the normal activities as set out in the programme of activities:
 - personnel costs,
 - operating costs: rental and property charges; equipment (in the case of purchases of durable equipment, only annual depreciation may be taken into account); telecommunications and postage; office supplies,
 - travel and subsistence costs for the organisation's staff in relation to its statutory meetings and any other working meetings necessary for the organisation to function properly,

- meetings (own organisation),
- publication, information and dissemination.
- The following costs will not be taken into account:
- expenditure incurred by a third party and not reimbursed by the beneficiary organisation,
- expenditure in kind involving no actual financial flow,
- expenditure on infrastructure purchases (except annual depreciation of purchased equipment),
- expenditure not linked to operations or to the organisation's normal activities, and
- clearly unnecessary or excessive expenditure.

Organisations receiving operating grants (e.g. under A-3029) should note that indirect costs are no longer eligible for specific actions (applications for funding in respect of specific projects).

6.5. Terms of payment

Grants will be paid in two instalments:

- an advance of 90 % within 60 days of the Commission receiving the agreement, duly completed and signed,
- the balance, after the Commission has received and approved the activity report and annual accounts for 2001.
- 6.6. If the application is successful, the organisation's representative must undertake, by signing the agreement, to provide proof that the grant was put to the correct use and to allow the Commission and/or the European Court of Auditors to check the organisation's accounting documents if they consider it appropriate. To this end, supporting documents must be kept by the beneficiary for five years after the final payment.

7. Submission of the application for funding

Applicant organisations will refer to the 'Vade-mecum on grant management (for applicants and beneficiaries)'.

The vade-mecum includes, in an annex, models of grant agreements as well as of the general conditions applicable.

The application for funding must be made on the special form.

This form and the vade-mecum will be available from mid-January 2001 on the following Internet site:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth/ingyoen.html

They will also be obtainable from the following address:

Mr P. MAIRESSE European Commission, Education and Culture DG, Unit D1 — Youth Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200 (B-7, 3/26) B-1049 Brussels Fax (32-2) 299 41 58

N.B.: These documents will be sent by ordinary mail; accordingly, only requests for documents received by the Commission by letter or by fax by 16 February 2001 will be considered; thereafter, any organisations wishing to apply must obtain the forms via the Internet.

8. Procedure for the submission and appraisal of applications

Only applications submitted on the proper form will be considered. The form, duly completed, dated and signed, must be sent <u>in duplicate</u> (both copies with an original signature on the last page) by ordinary mail to the above address (see point 7) **no later than 28 February 2001** (the postmark serving as proof). Envelopes containing applications for funding should be marked 'Demande de subvention A-3029 pour 2001 / Funding application under A-3029 for 2001'. Incomplete, undated or unsigned forms, those sent by fax, Internet, electronic mail or handed in to our offices will not be taken into consideration.

Applications must include the following documents:

1. a dated and signed funding application letter from the organisation;

- 2. the funding application form, duly completed and signed by the organisation's representative, in duplicate;
- 3. details of how all the budget headings which are more than EUR 5 000 were calculated, stating unit costs;
- 4. copy of the latest edition of the organisation's publication;
- 5. the organisation's annual accounts (to be submitted by 31 March at the latest);
- 6. a copy of the organisation's legally registered articles of association and recent proof of the organisation's existence (bank certificate, press report, etc.), in duplicate;
- 7. an activity report for 2000; for organisations which received a grant under A-3029 in 2000, this report must be drawn up in accordance with the model in Annex V of the 2000 agreement;
- 8. for organisations which received a grant under A-3029 in 2000, a financial statement showing operating costs for 2000 and corresponding sources of funding, which must be drawn up in accordance with the model in Annex V of the 2000 agreement.

Applications which do not include all the abovementioned documents will not be considered.

Organisations to which the Commission awards a grant will be sent an agreement specifying figures in euro, the terms and the level of funding. It must be signed and returned to the Commission without delay. Organisations whose applications are not accepted will be notified in writing.