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## I

(Information)

## COMMISSION

Ecu <sup>(1)</sup>

16 March 1998

(98/C 81/01)

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc	40,8471	Finnish markka	6,01211
Danish krone	7,54816	Swedish krona	8,62872
German mark	1,98012	Pound sterling	0,651650
Greek drachma	348,105	United States dollar	1,08708
Spanish peseta	167,954	Canadian dollar	1,53474
French franc	6,63957	Japanese yen	140,995
Irish pound	0,788999	Swiss franc	1,60725
Italian lira	1949,70	Norwegian krone	8,25204
Dutch guilder	2,23189	Icelandic krona	78,8461
Austrian schilling	13,9299	Australian dollar	1,62251
Portuguese escudo	202,719	New Zealand dollar	1,86784
		South African rand	5,40280

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

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

*Note:* The Commission also has an automatic fax answering service (No 296 10 97/296 60 11) providing daily data concerning calculation of the conversion rates applicable for the purposes of the common agricultural policy.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) No 3180/78 of 18 December 1978 (OJ L 379, 30.12.1978, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1971/89 (OJ L 189, 4.7.1989, p. 1).

Council Decision 80/1184/EEC of 18 December 1980 (Convention of Lomé) (OJ L 349, 23.12.1980, p. 34).

Commission Decision No 3334/80/ECSC of 19 December 1980 (OJ L 349, 23.12.1980, p. 27).

Financial Regulation of 16 December 1980 concerning the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 345, 20.12.1980, p. 23).

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3308/80 of 16 December 1980 (OJ L 345, 20.12.1980, p. 1).

Decision of the Council of Governors of the European Investment Bank of 13 May 1981 (OJ L 311, 30.10.1981, p. 1).

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FORWARDED BY THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL  
DURING THE PERIOD 2.3. TO 6.3.1998**

(98/C 81/02)

*These documents may be obtained from the Sales Offices, the addresses of which are given on the  
back cover*

Code	Catalogue No	Title	Date adopted by the Commission	Date forwarded to the Council	Number of pages
COM(98) 108	CB-CO-98-106-EN-C	Amended proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 93/389/EEC for a monitoring mechanism of Community CO <sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gas emissions <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	2.3.1998	2.3.1998	8
COM(98) 29	CB-CO-98-042-EN-C	Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament: Towards a Trans-European Positioning and Navigation Network: including a European Strategy for Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) <sup>(1)</sup>	21.1.1998	3.3.1998	60
COM(98) 58	CB-CO-98-083-EN-C	Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision on the co-ordinated introduction of mobile and wireless communications (UMTS) in the Community <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	11.2.1998	3.3.1998	30
COM(98) 84	CB-CO-98-089-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Directive on the extension of Council Directive 97/81/EC of 15 December 1997, on the Framework Agreement on part-time work concluded by UNICE, CEEP and the ETUC, to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>(1)</sup>	3.3.1998	3.3.1998	12
		Proposal for a Council Directive on the extension of Council Directive 97/80/EC of 15 December 1997, on the burden of proof in cases of discrimination based on sex to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>(1)</sup>			
COM(98) 132	CB-CO-98-132-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) suspending certain concessions set out in Council Regulation (EC) No 3066/95 establishing certain concessions in the form of Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural products and providing for the adjustment, as an autonomous and transitional measure, of certain agricultural concessions provided for in the Europe Agreements to take account of the Agreement on agriculture concluded during the Uruguay Round Multilateral Trade negotiations	3.3.1998	3.3.1998	9
COM(97) 681	CB-CO-97-736-EN-C	Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision amending Decision No 1692/96/EC as regards seaports, inland ports and intermodal terminals as well as project No 8 in Annex III <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	10.12.1997	4.3.1998	42
COM(97) 682	CB-CO-97-697-EN-C	Amended proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive relating to cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	3.3.1998	4.3.1998	7

Code	Catalogue No	Title	Date adopted by the Commission	Date forwarded to the Council	Number of pages
COM(98) 68	CB-CO-98-120-EN-C	Proposal for a Council and Commission Decision on the position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council established by the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States of the one part, and the Republic of Latvia of the other part, signed in [...] on [...], with regard to the adoption of the rules for the implementation of Article 64(1)(i), (1)(ii), and (2) of the Europe Agreement	4.3.1998	4.3.1998	10
COM(98) 89	CB-CO-98-094-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products	4.3.1998	4.3.1998	9
COM(98) 95	CB-CO-98-136-EN-C	Report from the Commission to the Council on the possibility of the European Investment Bank lending in Bosnia-Herzegovina	4.3.1998	4.3.1998	6
COM(98) 113	CB-CO-98-117-EN-C	Proposals for Council Decisions concerning the Community position within the Association Council on the participation of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Slovak Republic in the Community programme in the field of small- and medium-sized enterprises	4.3.1998	4.3.1998	126
COM(98) 118	CB-CO-98-118-EN-C	Proposal for a Council and Commission Decision on the position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council established by the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States of the one part, and the Republic of Estonia of the other part, signed in [...] on [...], with regard to the adoption of the rules for the implementation of Article 63(1)(i), (1)(ii) and (2) of the Europe Agreement	4.3.1998	4.3.1998	10
COM(98) 119	CB-CO-98-119-EN-C	Proposal for a Council and Commission Decision on the position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council established by the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States of the one part, and the Republic of Lithuania of the other part, signed in [...] on [...], with regard to the adoption of the rules for the implementation of Article 64(1)(i), (1)(ii) and (2) of the Europe Agreement	4.3.1998	4.3.1998	10
COM(98) 53	CB-CO-98-068-EN-C	Proposals for Council Decisions on the principles, priorities, intermediate objectives and conditions contained in the accession partnerships	4.2.1998	5.3.1998	66
COM(98) 123	CB-CO-98-126-EN-C	Amended proposal for a Council Directive establishing a safety assessment of third countries' aircraft using Community airports <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	4.3.1998	5.3.1998	11
COM(98) 67	CB-CO-98-145-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Directive on a common system of taxation applicable to interest and royalty payments made between associated companies of different Member States <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	4.3.1998	6.3.1998	26

Code	Catalogue No	Title	Date adopted by the Commission	Date forwarded to the Council	Number of pages
COM(98) 109	CB-CO-98-111-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Regulation (EC) No 724/97 determining measures and compensation relating to appreciable revaluations that affect farm incomes	6.3.1998	6.3.1998	14
COM(98) 120	CB-CO-98-127-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the Arab Republic of Egypt on trade in textile products	6.3.1998	6.3.1998	18

(<sup>1</sup>) This document contains an impact assessment on business, and in particular on SMEs.

(<sup>2</sup>) This document will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

(<sup>3</sup>) Text with EEA relevance.

*NB:* COM documents are available by subscription, either for all editions or for specific subject areas, and by single copy, in which case the price is based pro rata on the number of pages.

### Notification of a joint venture

(Case No IV/E-2/36.949)

(98/C 81/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 3 March 1998 the Commission received a notification of agreements pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation No 17 by which Cerestar Deutschland GmbH, Krefeld, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, and BASF AG, Ludwigshafen, have created a joint venture for the biological production of 2-keto-L gulonic acid (KGA), an upstream product of vitamin C. The partners each share one third of the joint venture. The production facility of the joint venture will be constructed at Cerestar's site at Krefeld and will be integrated to a large extent in the existing plant there. The source material sorbitol, which will be provided by Cerestar, will be modified to KGA in the joint venture. Merck and BASF will process it to vitamin C separately, which they will then make independently. In connection with the common production of the KGA the parties will further cooperate in the research and development of the modification of the starch, sorbitol or other starch derivative into KGA and vitamin C. The agreements affect the market of vitamin C.

2. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified joint venture could fall within the scope of Regulation No 17.

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

4. 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) 29 92 464) or by post, under reference number IV/36.556/E-2, to the following address:

European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV),  
Directorate E,  
Office 2/46,  
Avenue de Cortenberg/Kortenberglaan 158,  
B-1040 Brussels.

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case No IV/M.1041 — BASF/Shell (II))**

(98/C 81/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 23 December 1997, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the CELEX database, under document number 397M1041. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,  
Information, Marketing and Public Relations (OP/4B),  
2, rue Mercier,  
L-2985 Luxembourg;  
tel. (352) 29 29 424 55, fax (352) 29 29 427 63.

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case No IV/M.1065 — Nestlé/San Pellegrino)**

(98/C 81/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 16 February 1998, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the CELEX database, under document number 398M1065. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,  
Information, Marketing and Public Relations (OP/4B),  
2, rue Mercier,  
L-2985 Luxembourg;  
tel. (352) 29 29 424 55, fax (352) 29 29 427 63.

**French Government Notice concerning European Parliament and Council Directive 94/22/EC of 30 May 1994 on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons <sup>(1)</sup>**

(98/C 81/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

*Notice concerning an application for an exclusive licence for the prospection of liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons, designated as 'St-Just-en-Brie Licence'*

By application dated 24 October 1997, amended on 7 November 1997, Madison Chart Energy, with headquarters at 18, Place Vendôme, 75001 Paris (France), has requested, for a period of five years, an exclusive licence for the prospection of liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons, designated as 'St-Just-en-Brie Licence', over an area of approximately 1 186 square kilometres of the territory of the departments of Seine-et-Marne and Aube.

The perimeter of the area covered by this licence consists of the meridians and parallels joining the vertices whose geographical coordinates are specified below, the meridian of origin being the Paris meridian:

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,50 gr E	54,20 gr N
B	0,86 gr E	54,20 gr N
C	0,86 gr E	54,18 gr N
D	0,90 gr E	54,18 gr N
E	0,90 gr E	54,17 gr N
F	0,92 gr E	54,17 gr N
G	0,92 gr E	54,16 gr N
H	0,94 gr E	54,16 gr N
I	0,94 gr E	54,15 gr N
J	0,96 gr E	54,15 gr N
K	0,96 gr E	54,14 gr N
L	0,98 gr E	54,14 gr N
M	0,98 gr E	54,13 gr N
N	1,00 gr E	54,13 gr N
O	1,00 gr E	54,10 gr N
P	1,10 gr E	54,10 gr N
Q	1,10 gr E	54,00 gr N
R	1,20 gr E	54,00 gr N
S	1,20 gr E	53,80 gr N
T	0,60 gr E	53,80 gr N
U	0,60 gr E	53,81 gr N
V	0,63 gr E	53,81 gr N
W	0,63 gr E	53,85 gr N
X	0,60 gr E	53,85 gr N
Y	0,60 gr E	53,97 gr N
Z	0,61 gr E	53,97 gr N
a	0,61 gr E	53,99 gr N
b	0,62 gr E	53,99 gr N
c	0,62 gr E	54,02 gr N
d	0,63 gr E	54,02 gr N
e	0,63 gr E	54,04 gr N
f	0,64 gr E	54,04 gr N
g	0,64 gr E	54,06 gr N
h	0,68 gr E	54,06 gr N
i	0,68 gr E	54,10 gr N
j	0,50 gr E	54,10 gr N
k	0,50 gr E	54,14 gr N
l	0,80 gr E	54,14 gr N
m	0,80 gr E	54,17 gr N
n	0,60 gr E	54,17 gr N

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 164, 30.6.1994, p. 3.



The following perimeters are excluded from this area:

La Vignotte exploitation licence (13,20 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,73 gr E	54,17 gr N
B	0,77 gr E	54,17 gr N
C	0,77 gr E	54,16 gr N
D	0,78 gr E	54,16 gr N
E	0,78 gr E	54,13 gr N
F	0,74 gr E	54,13 gr N
G	0,74 gr E	54,14 gr N
H	0,72 gr E	54,14 gr N
I	0,72 gr E	54,16 gr N
J	0,73 gr E	54,16 gr N

Vulaines exploitation licence (27,90 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,97 gr E	53,99 gr N
B	1,02 gr E	53,99 gr N
C	1,02 gr E	53,93 gr N
D	0,94 gr E	53,93 gr N
E	0,94 gr E	53,97 gr N
F	0,97 gr E	53,97 gr N

Brémonderle exploitation licence (11,30 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,75 gr E	53,88 gr N
B	0,78 gr E	53,88 gr N
C	0,78 gr E	53,86 gr N
D	0,77 gr E	53,86 gr N
E	0,77 gr E	53,85 gr N
F	0,75 gr E	53,85 gr N
G	0,75 gr E	53,84 gr N
H	0,71 gr E	53,84 gr N
I	0,71 gr E	53,85 gr N
J	0,72 gr E	53,85 gr N
K	0,72 gr E	53,86 gr N
L	0,73 gr E	53,86 gr N
M	0,73 gr E	53,87 gr N
N	0,75 gr E	53,87 gr N

Charmolles exploitation licence and concession application (36,50 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,67 gr E	53,95 gr N
B	0,77 gr E	53,95 gr N
C	0,77 gr E	53,92 gr N
D	0,78 gr E	53,92 gr N
E	0,78 gr E	53,91 gr N
F	0,75 gr E	53,91 gr N
G	0,75 gr E	53,90 gr N

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
H	0,74 gr E	53,90 gr N
I	0,74 gr E	53,89 gr N
J	0,72 gr E	53,89 gr N
K	0,72 gr E	53,88 gr N
L	0,89 gr E	53,88 gr N
M	0,89 gr E	53,90 gr N
N	0,87 gr E	53,90 gr N

Champotran concession (41,10 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,81 gr E	54,17 gr N
B	0,84 gr E	54,17 gr N
C	0,84 gr E	54,16 gr N
D	0,85 gr E	54,16 gr N
E	0,85 gr E	54,15 gr N
F	0,88 gr E	54,15 gr N
G	0,88 gr E	54,14 gr N
H	0,87 gr E	54,14 gr N
I	0,87 gr E	54,13 gr N
J	0,88 gr E	54,13 gr N
K	0,88 gr E	54,12 gr N
L	0,89 gr E	54,12 gr N
M	0,89 gr E	54,09 gr N
N	0,88 gr E	54,09 gr N
O	0,88 gr E	54,08 gr N
P	0,87 gr E	54,08 gr N
Q	0,87 gr E	54,06 gr N
R	0,86 gr E	54,06 gr N
S	0,86 gr E	54,05 gr N
T	0,85 gr E	54,05 gr N
U	0,85 gr E	54,04 gr N
V	0,83 gr E	54,04 gr N
W	0,83 gr E	54,10 gr N
X	0,82 gr E	54,10 gr N
Y	0,82 gr E	54,13 gr N
Z	0,81 gr E	54,13 gr N

Bonnemarle concession (32 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,83 gr E	53,91 gr N
B	0,91 gr E	53,91 gr N
C	0,91 gr E	53,85 gr N
D	0,83 gr E	53,85 gr N

Pézarches concession application (9,30 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,72 gr E	54,19 gr N
B	0,74 gr E	54,19 gr N
C	0,74 gr E	54,18 gr N
D	0,76 gr E	54,18 gr N
E	0,76 gr E	54,17 gr N
F	0,78 gr E	54,17 gr N

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
G	0,78 gr E	54,15 gr N
H	0,76 gr E	54,15 gr N
I	0,76 gr E	54,16 gr N
J	0,72 gr E	54,16 gr N

Nesles concession application (11,27 km<sup>2</sup>):

Vertices	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,70 gr E	54,15 gr N
B	0,72 gr E	54,15 gr N
C	0,72 gr E	54,09 gr N
D	0,69 gr E	54,09 gr N
E	0,69 gr E	54,14 gr N
F	0,70 gr E	54,14 gr N

Any company wishing to submit a competing application may do so within 90 days of publication of this notice in accordance with the procedure summarised in the notice regarding the granting of mining rights for hydrocarbons in France published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 374, 30.12.1994, and laid down by Decree 95-427 of 19 April 1995 concerning mining rights (*French Official Gazette* of 22 April 1995).

Any additional information may be obtained from the following address: Ministry for Economic and Financial Affairs and Industry, Secretariat of State for Industry (Directorate-General for Energy and Raw Materials, Directorate for Hydrocarbons, Department for Exploration and Production), 99, rue de Grenelle, F-75353 Paris 07 SP, fax: (33 1) 43 19 31 22, tel.: (33 1) 43 19 38 28.

## III

(Notices)

## COMMISSION

## Results of the invitations to tender (Community food aid)

(98/C 81/07)

as provided for in Article 9(7) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2519/97 of 16 December 1997 laying down general rules for the mobilisation of products to be supplied under Council Regulation (EC) No 1292/96 as Community food aid

(Official Journal of the European Communities L 346, 17 December 1997, page 23)

2, 9 and 10 March 1998

Regulation (EC) No/ Decision of	Lot	Action No	Beneficiary/ destination	Product	Quantity (tonnes)	Delivery stage	Supplier	Awarded price (ECU/t)
265/98	A	585 and 597/96	EuronAid/...	LEPv	205	EMB	Besnier Industrie — Bourgbarre (F)	1 432,00
423/98	A	614 to 616/96	EuronAid/...	LEPv	150	EMB	Hoogwegt International BV — Arnhem (NL)	1 421,00
424/98	A	612 and 613/96	EuronAid/...	SUB	198	EMB	Zuckerhandelsunion GmbH — Berlin (D)	309,73
428/98	A	619/96	EuronAid/Madagascar	FBLT	140	EMB	United Belgian Mills NV — Antwerp (B)	179,85
429/98	A	617 and 618/96	EuronAid/Madagascar	HCOLZ	105	EMB	Cebag Belgium NV — Antwerp (B)	799,00
	B	620/96	WFP/Ethiopia	HCOLZ	382	DEB	Mutual Aid Adm. Services NV — Antwerp (B)	881,72
	C	106/97	WFP/Bangladesh	HCOLZ	1 325	EMB	A.O.H. Algemene Oliehandel BV — Utrecht (NL)	777,20

BLT: Common wheat  
 FBLT: Common wheat flour  
 CBL: Long grain milled rice  
 CBM: Medium grain milled rice  
 CBR: Round grain milled rice  
 BRI: Broken rice  
 FHAF: Oat flakes  
 FROF: Processed cheese  
 WSB: Wheat soya blend  
 SUB: Sugar  
 ORG: Barley  
 SOR: Sorghum  
 DUR: Durum wheat  
 GDUR: Durum wheat groats  
 MAI: Maize  
 FMAI: Maize flour

B: Butter  
 GMAI: Maize groats  
 SMAI: Maize meal  
 LENP: Whole milk powder  
 LDEP: Semi-skimmed milk powder  
 LEP: Skimmed-milk powder  
 LEPv: Vitaminized skimmed-milk powder  
 CT: Tomato concentrate  
 CM: Tinmeat mackerel  
 BISC: High protein biscuits  
 BO: Butteroil  
 HOLI: Olive oil  
 HCOLZ: Refined rape or colza oil  
 HPALM: Semi-refined palm oil  
 HSOJA: Refined soya-bean oil  
 HTOUR: Refined sunflower oil

BPJ: Beef in its own juice  
 CB: Corned beef  
 COR: Currants  
 BABYF: Babyfood  
 LHE: High-energy milk  
 Lsub1: Infant milk  
 Lsub2: Follow-on milk  
 PAL: Pasta  
 PISUM: Split peas  
 FEQ: Horse beans (*Vicia faba equina*)  
 FABA: Broad beans (*Vicia faba major*)  
 SAR: Sardines  
 DEB: Free at port of landing, landed  
 DEN: Free at port of landing — ex ship  
 EMB: Free at port of shipment  
 DEST: Free at destination  
 EXW: Ex works

**Call for proposals for the specific programme for research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of information technologies & call for expression of interest to participate in an EU-US 'SME partnership event' (Esprit)**

(98/C 81/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

A. CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE SPECIFIC PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING DEMONSTRATION, IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

## I. Introduction

By the decision of 26 April 1994, the European Parliament and the Council adopted the Fourth Framework Programme of European Community activities in the field of research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) for the period 1994 to 1998 <sup>(1)</sup>. Thereafter the Council adopted, on 23 November 1994, the specific programme for research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of information technologies <sup>(2)</sup> commonly known as the Esprit programme.

In conformity with Article 5 of the Decision <sup>(2)</sup> on the specific programme, a work programme, which sets out the detailed objectives and types of projects to be undertaken, was drawn up <sup>(3)</sup> and has since been updated three times <sup>(4)</sup>.

Organisations eligible to participate in the programme are invited to submit proposals for the tasks and themes covered by those parts of the 1998 Work Programme that are specified in this call.

Detailed information about procedures, eligibility, submission of proposals, the contract established with successful proposers, the 1998 Work Programme, and other material is given in the 1997 information package <sup>(5)</sup> which can be obtained from the European Commission. The *Guide to the Information Available* contains a request form through which specific parts of the information package may be ordered. All correspondence concerning this call for proposals should be sent to:

European Commission,  
Directorate-General III — Industry,  
Esprit Information Desk,  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200,  
B-1049 Brussels,

emailed to  
esprit@dg3.cec.be,  
or faxed to  
(32-2) 296 83 88.

The 1998 Work Programme, the 1997 information package, and related information on the Esprit programme are available via the following web site:

<http://www.cordis.lu/esprit/home.html>

## II. Focus of call for proposals

The programme regularly publishes calls for proposals. This is the eleventh call to be published since the current programme started.

In this call, anticipated to be Esprit's last under the current Framework Programme, the domain-specific areas and tasks being called are given below. Each area or task (identified by a task number) relates specifically to the Esprit 1998 Work Programme. All proposals will be evaluated in one step.

### *Domain 1. Software Technologies (ST)*

Specific Statistical Applications (see note below).

### *Domain 2. Technologies for Components and Subsystems (TCS)*

Tasks 2.8/2.13, 2.9, 2.25, and 2.26.

### *Domain 6. High Performance Computing and Networking (HPCN)*

All tasks in Areas 5 & 6.

### *Domain 8. Integration in Manufacturing (IiM)*

Task 8.27 (i.e. Area 1).

Proposals must be sent to the Commission (see 1997 Information Package for address) before **16 June 1998 at 5pm (local time)**, as confirmed by the postmark or courier service, or be delivered by hand to the same

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 126, 18.5.1994, p. 1, OJ L 86, 4.4.1996, p. 69, and OJ L 347, 18.12.1997, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 334, 22.12.1994, p. 24.

<sup>(3)</sup> December 1994 (H/94/5754)

<sup>(4)</sup> February 1996 (H/96/750), December 1996 (H/96/5157), and March 1998. The latter version is valid for this call, and is referred to as the 1998 Work Programme.

<sup>(5)</sup> This information package (dated September 1997) supersedes all previous versions and is valid for this call.

address or to one of the offices of the Commission within the Community by the same deadline, as confirmed by the acknowledgement of receipt. Proposals that have met this deadline will be formally established on a list at 5pm (local time) on 30 June 1998. Proposals not on this list will not be deemed eligible for evaluation.

*Note:* Proposals for the specific statistical applications task are invited to address and exploit advances in statistical methodology, computer systems and prototype software. There are two areas of specific interest:

- (a) Development of automatic methods for the best seasonal adjustment of aggregated and component series. These methods should assist in the model selection for series with possible changing patterns. The classical decomposition of series by separating trend from cycle should also feature. The criteria for the methods should be based on assessment studies and can rely on theory, simulation or testing on real socio-economic series,
- (b) Development of a homogeneous interactive environment employing visualisation techniques as an accessing and interactive tool for statisticians. The current 'state of the art' should be thoroughly recognised. A system architecture should be conceived so that extra modules can be incorporated in a cost effective way. Further details on how to submit a proposal and the relevant forms are given in the specific information document *Statistical Methodology and Information Systems*.

### III. Budgetary Allocation

The indicative budget allocation for this call in terms of millions of ecus of Community contribution, broken down by domain, is as follows: ST: 0,4 for Specific Statistical Applications; TCS: 10; HPCN: 16; IiM: 6. Within

the indicative budget for HPCN, the indicative allocation for Area 6: Humanitarian Demining is ecu 12,3 million.

#### B. CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EU-US 'SME PARTNERSHIP EVENT'

Upon the invitation of the State of Texas, and in the context of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue and of the Transatlantic Small Business Initiative, the Department of Commerce of the State of Texas, the US Federal Department of Commerce, and the European Commission will hold a 'partnership event' between EU- and US-based companies (chiefly small-/medium-sized enterprises — SMEs) in Fort Worth, Texas, USA, on 14-16 April 1999.

The event is to promote co-operation between US and EU SMEs in the areas of 'electronic commerce and multimedia technologies'. About 200 SMEs from the EU will be selected to participate. Selected participants are eligible to receive logistics support towards organising meetings at the event, as well as coaching on results and product presentation, and on marketing in the US.

Requests for additional information should be sent to:

Michel Bosco,  
European Commission,  
Directorate-General III — Industry,  
The Esprit Programme (F/6, N 105, 5/8),  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200,  
B-1049 Brussels,

or faxed to (32 2) 296 83 87 with the subject heading: 'TexSBI'. Expressions of interest should be sent to this address not later than 16 June 1998.

**Second joint call for proposals for RTD activities on transmissible spongiform encephalopathies under the specific programmes of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the fields of agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development), of biotechnology, of biomedicine and health (1994-1998)**

(98/C 81/09)

1. In accordance with the Decision of the European Parliament and the Council adopting the Fourth Framework Programme of European Community activities in the field of research, technological development and demonstration (1994-1998) <sup>(1)</sup> and the Council Decisions adopting specific programmes of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the fields of agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development) <sup>(2)</sup>, of biotechnology <sup>(3)</sup>, of biomedicine and health <sup>(4)</sup>, the European Commission hereby invites interested parties to submit proposals for RTD actions.

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the Council Decisions adopting the abovementioned specific programmes, work programmes have been drawn up by the Commission, setting out in detail the scientific and technological objectives and types of RTD activities to be undertaken, as well as the proposed financial arrangements.

- 2(a) The objectives and the research, technological development and demonstration activities in the field of agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aqua-

culture and rural development), covered by this call for proposals relate to the area 3 'Generic science and advanced technologies for nutritious foods', the sub-area 4.4.2 'Animal health', the sub-area 5.3.2 'Health of aquacultured species', as well as the area 6 'Objectives addressed by concertation', as described in the work programme Agriculture and Fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development).

The legal entities referred to in Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Council Decision concerning the rules for participation in the specific programmes, as well as the JRC <sup>(5)</sup>, are invited to submit proposals for RTD actions in the form of shared-cost actions (RTD projects, thematic networks, demonstration projects) and concerted actions within the themes mentioned in the annex to the present call.

- 2(b) The objectives and the research, technological development and demonstration activities in the field of Biotechnology, covered by this call for proposals relate exclusively to the area 4 'Cell communication in neurosciences', as described in the work programme Biotechnology.

The legal entities referred to in Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Council Decision concerning the rules for participation in the specific programmes, as well as the JRC <sup>(5)</sup>, are invited to submit proposals for RTD actions in the form of shared-cost actions (RTD projects, integrated projects and demonstration projects) within the themes mentioned in the annex to the present call.

- 2(c) The objectives and the research, technological development and demonstration activities in the field of biomedicine and health, covered by this call for proposals relate to the area 3 'Brain research' and the area 4 'Research on diseases

<sup>(1)</sup> Decision No 1110/94/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 April 1994 concerning a Fourth Framework Programme for European Community activities in the field of research and technological development and demonstration (1994-1998) (OJ L 126, 18.5.1994, p. 1), modified by decision No 616/96/EC of 25 March 1996 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 86, 4.4.1996, p. 69). Decision last amended by European Parliament and Council Decision No 2535/97/EC of 1 December 1997 (OJ L 347, 18.12.1997, p. 1) adapting for the second time Decision 1110/94/EC concerning the Fourth Framework Programme.

<sup>(2)</sup> Council Decision 94/805/EC of 23 November 1994 adopting a specific programme of research, technological development and demonstration in the field of agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development) (OJ L 334, 22.12.1994, p. 73).

<sup>(3)</sup> Council Decision No 94/912/EC of 15 December 1994 adopting a specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of biotechnology (1994-1998) (OJ L 361, 31.12.1994, p. 25).

<sup>(4)</sup> Council Decision No 94/913/EC of 15 December 1994 adopting a specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of biomedicine and health (1994-1998) (OJ L 361, 31.12.1994, p. 40).

<sup>(5)</sup> Council Decision No 94/763/EC of 21 November 1994 concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in research, technological development and demonstration activities of the European Community (OJ L 306, 30.11.1994, p. 8).

with major socio-economic impact: from basic research into clinical practice', as described in the work programme biomedicine and health.

The legal entities referred to in Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Council Decision concerning the rules for participation in the specific programmes, as well as the JRC<sup>(5)</sup>, are invited to submit proposals for RTD actions in the form of shared-cost actions (RTD projects, demonstration projects), concerted actions and specific measures within the themes mentioned in the annex to the present call.

3. In order to facilitate participation of organisations from the central and eastern European countries, and from the European countries of the former Soviet Union, Community financial support can be made available. Details of third-country participation possibilities are contained in the information packages of the specific programmes agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development) and biotechnology.

The specific programme biomedicine and health is also open to organisations from third countries. In order to facilitate participation of organisations from the central and eastern European Countries, the countries of the former Soviet Union, and from the developing countries, Community financial support can be made available. Details of third-country participation possibilities are contained in the information package of the specific programme concerned.

4. Proposals must be sent to the Commission before 17 June 1998 at 12 noon, local time, as confirmed by the postmark, or be delivered by hand to the addresses indicated in point 10, or to one of the Commission offices in the Community, as confirmed by the date of the acknowledgement of receipt.

On 1 July 1998 at 12 noon, local time, a register of the proposals received will be drawn up and the call for proposals closed.

- 5(a) Research, technological development and demonstration activities in the field of Agriculture and Fisheries will be carried out as shared-cost actions

and concerted actions in conformity with the modalities for implementation set out in Annex III of the Council Decision adopting the specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of Agriculture and Fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development).

- 5(b) Research, technological development and demonstration activities in the field of Biotechnology will be carried out as shared-cost actions in conformity with the modalities for implementation set out in Annex III of the Council Decision adopting the specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of Biotechnology.
- 5(c) Research, technological development and demonstration activities in the field of Biomedicine and Health will be carried out as shared-cost actions, concerted actions and specific measures in conformity with the modalities for implementation set out in Annex III of the Council Decision adopting the specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of biomedicine and health.
6. The proposals will be subject to a selection procedure based on the criteria set out in Annex II of the Fourth Framework Programme and in Article 4(3) of the Council Decision on the rules for participation in the specific programmes.

The RTD actions will be the subject of contracts in accordance with Council Decision on the rules for participation in the specific programmes, and their results will be disseminated in line with the principles set out in the Council Decision concerning rules for the dissemination of the research results emanating from the specific programmes of research, technological development and demonstration of the European Community<sup>(6)</sup>.

- 7(a) *Special provisions* for the specific programme agriculture and fisheries:

in the context of the application of the specific selection criteria, the two following items of the proposed work will be examined with great care:

<sup>(5)</sup> Council Decision No 94/763/EC of 21 November 1994 concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in research, technological development and demonstration activities of the European Community (OJ L 306, 30.11.1994, p. 8).

<sup>(6)</sup> Council Decision No 94/762/EC of 21 November 1994, concerning rules for dissemination of results of research emanating from the specific programmes for research, technological development and demonstration of the European Community (OJ L 306, 30.11.1994, p. 5).



— the plan for the exploitation of research results, supported by a credible partnership that is clearly committed to the proposal, through provisions on exploitation rights, and in view of an industrial development and/or a service in the public interest,

— ethical statement relating to social, economic and ecological impact.

7(b) *Special provisions:* (referring to the research and technological development activities mentioned in the work programme Biotechnology):

in the context of the application of specific selection criteria as listed in the biotechnology work programme, the two following items of the proposed work will be examined with great care:

— the plan for the exploitation of research results, supported by a credible partnership that is clearly committed to the proposal, through provisions on exploitation rights, and in view of an industrial development and/or a service in the public interest,

— ethical statement relating to social, economic and ecological impact.

7(c) *Special provisions:* (referring to the research and technological development activities mentioned in the work programme Biomedicine and Health):

In accordance with Article 129 of the Treaty, a close link is established between the research activities of this programme and the public health action programmes, on the one hand, and the Community measures involving health and safety at work, on the other hand. This also applies to the examination of proposals submitted to the Commission.

8. The proposers must clearly indicate:

— the origin of the TSE-infected samples, the quantity and the uses they wish to make of such samples,

— the origin of control samples,

— the safety procedures which will be put in place for handling infected material.

Proposals must comply with all existing ethical and safety provisions applicable in the country in which the research is carried out and with the ethical guarantees included in the Fourth Framework Programme. With regard to their biomedical ethical content, proposals must comply with the 'Recommendations guiding physicians in biomedical research involving human subjects' adopted by the 18th World Assembly in Helsinki and last amended in Somerwest in 1996.

9. The work programme, the information package concerning the procedures to be followed for the submission of proposals and a copy of the model contract to be drawn up in respect of selected proposals are available on request from the Commission's services. The description of work undertaken in previous and related programmes will also be provided upon request.

10. All correspondence, requests for the information package and proposals for RTD actions should be addressed to:

(a) *For the programme agriculture and fisheries*

European Commission,  
DG VI-XII-XIV,  
Secretariat of the programme FAIR,  
DG XII/E/2,  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200,  
B-1049 Brussels,  
Tel.: (32-2) 296 02 92,  
Fax: (32-2) 296 43 22,  
E-mail: life-fair@dg12.cec.be

(b) *For the programme biotechnology*

European Commission,  
DG XII/E-1, SDME 9/8,  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200,  
B-1049 Brussels,  
Tel.: (32-2) 295 28 53,  
Fax: (32-2) 299 18 60,  
Telex: COMEU B 21877,  
E-mail: life-biotech@dg12.cec.be

(c) *For the programme biomedicine and health*

European Commission,  
DG XII/E-4, SDME 8/55,  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200,  
B-1049 Brussels,  
Tel.: (32-2) 296 57 89,

Fax: (32-2) 295 53 65,  
Telex: COMEUR Bruxelles,  
E-mail: biomedicine@dg12.cec.be

*Hand-delivered proposals* should be deposited at the reception of the following address: DGXII, Square de Meeûs, 8, B-1050 Brussels.

## ANNEX

Research themes (1)	Specific programmes concerned
<p>4. <i>Risk assessment of SSEs</i></p> <p>Proposals with a multidisciplinary approach, including basic research, mathematical modelling, as well as other aspects of risk analysis, leading to quantitative risk assessment, will be encouraged.</p>	
<p>4.1. <i>Evaluation of SE's transmission modalities (including oral transmission) from cattle to man and other food animals, environmental vectors</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— possible transmission through animal-derived products e.g. gelatine, tallow; and rendering,</li> <li>— transmission studies in food animals,</li> <li>— pathogenesis of BSE in sheep, across a range of European genotypes,</li> <li>— feeding of meat and bone meal,</li> <li>— search of possible factors (genetic factors) and co-factors (nematode infection, mites, etc.).</li> </ul>	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
<p>4.2. <i>Extended surveillance programme on BSE and related diseases</i></p> <p>Establishment of a European network for the epidemiological surveillance of BSE and related diseases aiming at assessing: e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— standardisation and harmonisation of the process and criteria (neuropathological, clinical and biological diagnosis) of identification of suspected cases,</li> <li>— the incidence, geographical distribution and role of specific risk factors (genotype, feeding regime, exposure, environmental, etc.),</li> <li>— assessment of the surveillance system and development of quality control procedures,</li> <li>— comparison of scrapie strains with BSE.</li> </ul>	FAIR (***)
<p>4.3. <i>Determine incidence of covert disease in cattle</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— BSE: Pre-clinical disease and latent infection in cattle, sheep and other species (ruminants and non-ruminants),</li> </ul>	FAIR (***)

Research themes (1)	Specific programmes concerned
— Scrapie: Pre-clinical disease and latent infection in sheep.	
<p>4.4. <i>Determine infectivity titre of cattle tissues and cattle-derived products entering the human food chain or used in pharmaceutical and cosmetic products</i></p> <p>It will also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— determination of infectivity levels in human blood,</li> <li>— effect of different processing methods of blood and blood products on infectivity level,</li> <li>— sheep and sheep-derived products.</li> </ul>	BIOTECH (**) and FAIR (***)
<p>4.5. <i>The potential exposure of human population</i></p> <p>Environmental contamination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— survival of the agent in the environment, e.g. dust, soil, rats, mice,</li> <li>— safe disposal of specific risk material,</li> <li>— safe handling of meat and bone meal,</li> <li>— methods of disposal: incineration, composting, rendering, biogas,</li> <li>— methods of validation for effectiveness of inactivation and handling procedures,</li> <li>— effluents,</li> <li>— safety of workers,</li> <li>— disinfection,</li> <li>— risk perception of the population in relation to exposure.</li> </ul>	BIOMED (*)
<p>4.6. <i>Determine contamination level of meat with brain/spinal cord after standard butchering procedures</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— risk assessment of current diversity of slaughtering, butchering and meat recovery procedures in Europe,</li> <li>— safety of abattoir workers.</li> </ul>	FAIR (***)
4.7. <i>Determination of oral feeding and intracerebral dose responses to BSE agent and whether multiple doses are cumulative</i>	FAIR (***)
4.8. <i>Investigation of possible biological mechanisms of maternal transmission of BSE</i>	FAIR (***)
<p>5. <i>Treatment and prevention of SEs</i></p> <p>5.1. Assessment and development of inactivation procedures currently used in industry (food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics). Development of alternative procedures will also be considered.</p>	BIOTECH (**) and FAIR (***)

Research themes <sup>(1)</sup>	Specific programmes concerned
6. <i>Coordination of research activities between the Member States</i>	
6.1. Standardisation of case definitions for collection of data, of data analysis and of dissemination of information in order to ensure a proper surveillance.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.2. Harmonised procedures for early detection and diagnosis of the disease(s).	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.3. Continuous updating and dissemination of scientific knowledge in this field.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.4. Fluent and rapid dissemination of this data.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.5. Activation of an early warning system in case of crucial developments.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.6. Exchange and mobility activities including training of research staff. In areas such as diagnosis: — creation of network of laboratories with the aim of exchanging staff for shorter periods, one to three months.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.7. A continuous inventory of the progress of national research programmes. — creation of a European network of national information centres.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)
6.8. Harmonisation and control of diagnostic methods for human and animal SEs.	BIOMED (*) and FAIR (***)

<sup>(1)</sup> Referring to the communication from the Commission on 'A European initiative on transmissible spongiform encephalopathies' COM(96) 582 final of 13.11.1996.

(\*) Specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of Biomedicine and Health (1994-1998).

(\*\*) Specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of Biotechnology (1994-1998).

(\*\*\*) Specific programme of research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of Agriculture and Fisheries (including agro-industry, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development).

**European Community — Canada**  
**Programme for Cooperation in higher Education and Training**  
**Third call for proposals**  
(98/C 81/10)

On 27 November 1995, the Council adopted a decision concerning the conclusion of a European Community-Canada programme for cooperation in higher education and training.

This call for proposals refers to the major element of the programme which is the encouragement of joint projects undertaken by consortia of higher education institution training establishments and other relevant organisations on both sides of the Atlantic. The joint consortia programme will be administered on behalf of the European Community by the European Commission Directorate General for Education, Training and Youth (DG XXII) and, on behalf of the Canadian Government, by Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT).

#### OBJECTIVES

The cooperation programme aims at adding a new European Community/Canadian dimension to student-centred cooperation and to bring balanced benefits to both the European Community and Canada.

The specific objectives are to:

- (a) promote closer understanding between the peoples of the European Community and Canada including broader knowledge of their languages, cultures and institutions,
- (b) improve the quality of human resource development in both the European Community and Canada,
- (c) improve the quality of transatlantic student mobility, including promoting transparency, mutual recognition and thus portability of academic credits,
- (d) encourage exchange of expertise in new developments in higher education and training, including training in new technologies and the use of distance education, for the mutual enrichment of practice in the European Community and Canada,
- (e) form or enhance partnerships among higher education and training institutions, professional associations, public authorities, business and other associations as appropriate in both the European Community and Canada,
- (f) introduce a European Community and Canadian added-value dimension to transatlantic cooperation in higher education and training which complements

existing forms of bilateral cooperation between Member States of the European Community and Canada as well as other programmes and initiatives.

#### SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

The objectives of the programme are to be achieved by promoting an innovative range of student-centred higher education and training cooperative activities between the different regions of the European Community and Canada through the encouragement of joint projects undertaken by European Community/Canadian consortia.

The programme is a small-scale initiative supporting in this third selection round approximately 6 original projects which can only or best be carried out through multilateral groupings. It is not intended to duplicate activities which are or can be carried out on a bilateral basis between the individual Member States of the European Community and Canada.

#### THE CONSORTIA PARTNERSHIPS

Each joint consortium must involve at least three active partners on each side. These must include at least two partner higher education or training institutions on each side in different Member States of the European Community and in different Provinces of Canada. Third and subsequent partners may be other education and training institutions or other relevant organisations (e.g. businesses, NGOs, publishers, government departments, chambers of commerce, research institutes) in the same or other Member States and Provinces. Programme funding, however, is intended only for the academic/training institutions in each consortium. It is vital that all academic/training institutions participate fully in the consortium.

Previous experience as a partner in a European Community education/training programme (e.g. Leonardo da Vinci, Socrates/Erasmus, Comett, Tempus, Petra, Force) is an eligibility criterion for the European Community lead partner in the EC/Canada consortium. Details, including reference numbers, should be given regarding all such involvement(s).

#### THE COOPERATIVE PROJECTS

The focus of projects should be on innovative activities which meet a majority of the aforementioned programme objectives.

Although all disciplinary fields including new subject areas and cross-disciplinary studies are eligible for consideration, proposals will wish to demonstrate their particular relevance to the transatlantic character of the programme. Thus, favourable consideration may be given to proposals on such topics as:

- Canadian/European Community Relations: economic integration, law and administration, federal and Community structures, social policy, regional policy, conflict resolution,
- areas of contemporary policy relevance,
- pedagogically evolving areas where the frontiers of knowledge are advancing including multidisciplinary studies. This might include the production of new course materials or innovative delivery of such materials, e.g. through interactive media.

#### THE COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

Consortia may seek programme support for one or more types of activity as an integrated element of the project. Consortia should thus aim to pursue a coherent strategy rather than engage in a range of diverse activities. A major element of each consortium (with rare and justified exceptions) will be student mobility.

Transatlantic cooperative activities eligible for support are:

- development of organisational frameworks for student mobility, including work placements, which will provide adequate language preparation and full academic recognition,
- structured exchanges of students, teachers, trainers and administrators in higher education institutions and training establishments, including work placements as appropriate,
- joint development of innovative curricula, teaching materials, methods and modules including those exploiting the new education technologies,
- short intensive programmes of a minimum of three/four weeks,
- teaching assignments forming an integral part of the curriculum in a partner institution,
- other innovative projects, including the use of new technologies and distance learning, which aim to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of transatlantic cooperation in higher education and training.

#### THE STUDENTS

Students should benefit from the project through the introduction of an appropriate international (European Community/Canada) perspective into their studies (for mobile and non-mobile students).

In the realisation of the objectives of this programme, the Commission will ensure that the general policy of the Community of equal opportunities for men and women is fully respected.

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Financial support will be awarded to successful consortia for up to a maximum of three years. Awards are intended to provide seed-funding for carrying out joint innovative projects which can be accomplished within three years or which can, once established, be continued without on-going programme support.

Funding will be awarded to successful consortia via the lead partners on both sides. The European Commission (DG XXII) will provide a total of ECU 600 000 to support the participation of the European Community institutions and students in these consortia. Canada will provide approximately CAD \$ 1 000 000 for its participants. It is expected that six consortia will be supported.

For a three-year project, the maximum level of funding for each consortium is ECU 90 000 for the EC group which will, in addition, receive up to ECU 10 000 per consortium earmarked for transatlantic student mobility grants. The maximum funding for each Canadian group, including financial support for students, will be CAD \$ 160 000. Student grants are intended as a contribution towards the financial support of students during a transatlantic study period abroad (travel, higher cost of living, health insurance).

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITY APPLICANTS

The common guidelines and application forms are available:

- at the Europa Server Internet address, downloadable at <http://europa.eu.int/en/comm/dg22/call.html> (DG XXII programmes)
- at the main Commission Offices in the Member States
- at the national agencies for Socrates/Erasmus and the national coordination units for Leonardo (one in each Member State)
- on request sent by fax to fax no (32 2) 295 57 19 (European Commission DG XXII) indicating your full postal address.

In both the EC and Canada, proposals should be sent by registered post or delivered by hand at the latest by 29 May 1998.