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I

(Information)

COUNCIL

Information concerning the date of entry into force of the Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of PNR data by Air Carriers to the United States Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

(2004/C 158/01)

The Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of PNR data by Air Carriers to the United States Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, signed in Washington on 28 May 2004, entered into force on 28 May 2004, in accordance with Article 7 of the Agreement.

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

14 June 2004

(2004/C 158/02)

1 euro =

Currency		Exchange rate	Currency		Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,2001	LVL	Latvian lats	0,6543
JPY	Japanese yen	133,45	MTL	Maltese lira	0,4250
DKK	Danish krone	7,4333	PLN	Polish zloty	4,5649
GBP	Pound sterling	0,66370	ROL	Romanian leu	40 741
SEK	Swedish krona	9,1794	SIT	Slovenian tolar	239,1800
CHF	Swiss franc	1,5145	SKK	Slovak koruna	39,875
ISK	Iceland króna	87,10	TRL	Turkish lira	1 811 000
NOK	Norwegian krone	8,3325	AUD	Australian dollar	1,7469
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,6377
CYP	Cyprus pound	0,58240	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	9,3573
CZK	Czech koruna	31,447	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,9217
EEK	Estonian kroon	15,6466	SGD	Singapore dollar	2,0679
HUF	Hungarian forint	253,45	KRW	South Korean won	1 395,06
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4528	ZAR	South African rand	7,8913

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

EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

OPINION OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

of 24 May 2004

at the request of the Council of the European Union concerning a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 concerning short-term statistics

(COM(2003) 823 final)

(CON/2004/19)

(2004/C 158/03)

1. On 30 April 2004, the European Central Bank (ECB) received a request from the Council of the European Union for an opinion on a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98 concerning short-term statistics (hereinafter the 'proposed regulation').
2. The ECB's competence to deliver an opinion is based on the first indent of Article 105(4) of the Treaty establishing the European Community. In accordance with the first sentence of Article 17.5 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Central Bank, the Governing Council has adopted this opinion.
3. The objective of the proposed regulation is to improve European Union (EU) short-term business statistics. In particular, the proposed regulation requires the production of an import price index for industrial products and an output price index for services. It also requires that certain important economic indicators be compiled at higher frequency and transmitted with reduced deadlines.
- and which include eight indicators contained in the proposed regulation. The ECB welcomes the existing 'gentlemen's agreement' between national statistical institutes and Eurostat which aims at ensuring that the PEEIs contained in the proposed regulation will be published in line with the PEEI targets, irrespective of the date of adoption of the proposed regulation.
5. The ECB strongly supports the proposed regulation which includes indicators of the utmost importance for the assessment of the business cycle and the conduct of monetary policy. Moreover, it is a major step forward towards the establishment of essential monthly and quarterly turnover and output price statistics on services. The proposed regulation reflects the joint proposals by the Statistical Programme Committee and the Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics in February 2003.

A. General remarks

4. The ECB has specified the short-term statistics it requires for the purposes of conducting monetary policy⁽¹⁾. The proposed regulation follows from the Action Plan on Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) Statistical Requirements (hereinafter the 'EMU Action Plan'), established at the request of the Ecofin Council by the European Commission (Eurostat) in close collaboration with the ECB. The EMU Action Plan called for the improvement of the statistics covered by Regulation (EC) No 1165/98. The proposed regulation is also important having regard to the Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEI), which were adopted by the Ecofin Council on 18 February 2003
6. The ECB particularly welcomes the higher frequency and the tighter transmission deadlines for many indicators. For the assessment of the economic situation by the ECB timely aggregated indicators are more important than detailed breakdowns.
7. The ECB is also in favour of the introduction in the proposed regulation of the breakdown of new orders and prices by their origin, that is, within or outside the euro area. They are needed by the ECB to allow it to distinguish between euro area and non-euro area economic developments. The ECB agrees that this breakdown should only be produced by those Member States which have adopted the euro. However, it is important that those Member States which adopt the euro in the future will also be able to provide sufficiently long back series at that time.

⁽¹⁾ Statistical requirements of the European Central Bank in the field of general economic statistics, European Central Bank, August 2000. See also the opinion of the European Monetary Institute on a proposal for a Council regulation concerning short-term statistics (CON/97/19).

8. The ECB welcomes the option set out in the proposed regulation of compiling certain euro area indicators by means of so-called 'European sample schemes'. In the light of limited resources and the need to set priorities, this helps to improve euro area statistics and, at the same time, it may reduce the resources required at the national level. For the same reason, the ECB supports the fact that the proposed regulation significantly reduces the transmission requirements for small EU countries, allowing them to focus on compiling the main aggregates.
9. Some further efforts are needed to improve the comparability of existing statistics covered by Regulation (EC) No 1165/98. Though much progress has been achieved since 1998, there are various factors that still hamper the quality of the euro area aggregates and the comparability of the national data (such as the different national practices for working-day and seasonal adjustment and for revisions).

B. Specific remarks

10. The ECB is in favour of the new import price variable (Annex, Part A) to be compiled from 2005, and the planned deadline for its transmission. This variable will yield important additional information for euro area price analysis. The ECB requires this variable in order to determine prices of industrial imports by the euro area as a whole from outside the euro area.
11. For data on employment, hours worked and gross wages and salaries, the proposed regulation requires quarterly data, with a transmission deadline of three months (two months for employment). For the purposes of the ECB, this quarterly frequency in combination with the long transmission deadlines is unsatisfactory. For the main euro area aggregates, these data should be available at a monthly frequency and with a transmission deadline of one month at most.
12. The ECB is pleased to note the shortened transmission deadline and the move from a quarterly to a monthly

frequency for statistics on production in the construction sector (Annex, Part B).

13. The ECB welcomes the planned feasibility study on the production of a construction output prices variable. Such a variable should supplement the current variable on construction costs – which is an input price index – since the output price index is more suitable for price analysis.
14. The ECB welcomes the major improvements planned for services statistics, in particular the introduction of an output price index. This index will provide a valuable component for euro area price analysis, and will also help to improve the quality of growth estimates in the national accounts. Given that the PEEI publication target for the output price index is not later than two months after the reporting quarter, the ECB suggests the alignment of the required transmission deadline in the proposed regulation (three months) with the more appropriate PEEI publication target. Moreover, the proposed regulation will set a date up until which the list of service activities covered by output price statistics may be modified (Annex, Part D). As entirely new statistics are being developed this restriction may be counterproductive. The coverage of services output prices statistics should be modifiable when needed, according to changing information requirements. The ECB would therefore suggest deleting the deadline.
15. Regarding the services turnover variable, the proposed regulation shortens the transmission deadline from three to two months, which is welcomed. The ECB also supports the planned feasibility studies concerning compiling services turnover variables at a monthly frequency.

Done at Frankfurt am Main, 24 May 2004.

The President of the ECB
Jean-Claude TRICHET

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'**Thematic calls in the area of 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'**

(2004/C 158/04)

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006) ⁽¹⁾, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area' (2002-2006) ⁽²⁾ (referred to as the specific programme).

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as the Commission) has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme ⁽³⁾ (referred to as the work programme) setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 16 December 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006) ⁽⁴⁾ (referred to as the rules for participation), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions (referred to as the calls) comprises the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the annexes. The annexes indicate in particular, the dates of closure for the

submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.

3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (referred to as the proposers) are invited to submit to the Commission proposals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The conditions of participation of the proposers will be verified within the framework of the negotiation of the indirect RTD action. Before that however, proposers will have signed a declaration stating that they do not fall under any of the cases given by Article 93(1) of the Financial Regulation. They will also have given the Commission the information listed in Article 173(2) of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, of 23 December 2002, laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, as modified by C(2003)577, C(2003)955, C(2003)1952, C(2003)3543, C(2003)3555, C(2003)4609, C(2003)5183, C(2004)433, and C(2004)2002, all decisions unpublished.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the calls which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. The Commission also makes available Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures⁽¹⁾. These guides and guidelines, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via the following addresses:

European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be submitted in accordance with the following procedures:

- as an electronic proposal via the web-based Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS⁽²⁾), or
- on paper forms.

All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line. Part B of proposals for indirect RTD actions can only be submitted in pdf (portable document format, compatible with Adobe Version 3 or higher with embedded fonts). Compressed (zipped) files will be excluded.

The EPSS software tool (for off-line or on-line usage) is available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete, illegible or contain viruses will be excluded.

Versions of proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on a removable electronic storage medium (eg, CD-ROM, diskette), by email or by fax will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may also be prepared and submitted using the forms in the guide for proposers (referred to as on paper), or using the off-line version of the EPSS.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on paper and which are incomplete will be excluded.

Further details on the various proposal submission procedures are given in Annex J of the Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on paper by post must be received by the Commission at the following address, and labelled as follows:

'FP6 - Research Proposals'
(Call identifier:)
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

For deliveries by hand or by representatives (including by private courier services⁽³⁾), the delivery should be to the following address, and labelled as follows:

'FP6 - Research Proposals'
(Call identifier:)
European Commission
Rue de Genève, 1
B-1140 Brussels

7. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions not satisfying the conditions relating to the minimum number of participants indicated in the call concerned will be excluded.

This also applies regarding any additional eligibility criteria given in the work programme.

8. In the case of successive submissions of the same proposal for an indirect RTD action, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

Where the same proposal for an indirect RTD action is submitted on paper and in electronic format (ie, on-line), the Commission will only examine the text submitted under the electronic format.

9. If foreseen in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions could be evaluated in the framework of a future evaluation.

10. In all correspondence relating to a call (e.g., when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

⁽¹⁾ C(2003)883 of 27.3.2003, as last modified by C(2004)1855 of 18.5.2004.

⁽²⁾ The EPSS is a tool to assist proposers to develop and submit their proposals electronically.

⁽³⁾ Users of courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should give the following number: (32-2) 299 1233 (Mrs R Henry).

ANNEX 1

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area
2. **Activity:** Priority thematic area of research 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
3. **Call title:** Thematic call in the area of 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-LIFESCIHEALTH-4
5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004
6. **Closure date(s):** 9 September 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 4 million, broken down as follows:

Instrument	(EUR millions)
CA/SSA	4

8. **Areas called and instruments:** Proposals are invited for the following topic, which is described using a short title only. For the full title and definition of topic, applicants must refer to the Work Programme (Section 1.3 Technical Content). The evaluation of proposals will be based on the full definition of topic as described in the Work Programme. For the topic the instrument to be used is indicated.

Topic Ref.	Short Titles of Topics	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.2.0-9	Feasibility study for the coordination of national cancer research activities	CA/SSA

9. **Minimum number of participants⁽¹⁾:**

Instrument	Minimum number of participants
CA	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC.
SSA	One legal entity from a MS or AS.

10. **Restriction on participation:** None.
11. **Consortia agreements:** Participants in CA or SSA resulting from this call are encouraged, but not required, to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. **Evaluation procedure:**
 - The evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure,
 - Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously,
 - The evaluation process may involve 'remote' evaluation of proposals,
 - Applicants may be invited to discuss their proposal.
13. **Evaluation criteria:** See Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) for CA and SSA.
14. **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:**
 - evaluation results: estimated to be available within some three months after the closure date,
 - contract signature: it is estimated that the first contracts related to this call will come into force by the end of 2004.

⁽¹⁾ Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participant may be the sole participant in an indirect action.

ANNEX 2

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area
2. **Activity:** Priority thematic area of research 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
3. **Call title:** Thematic call in the area of 'Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health'.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-LIFESCIHEALTH-5
5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004
6. **Closure date(s):** 16 November 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 540 million, broken down as follows:

Instrument	(EUR millions)
IP or NOE	405 – 432
STREP or CA or area specific SSA	108 – 135
Strategic SSA across Thematic priority 1	8

8. **Areas called and instruments:** Proposals are invited in the following areas, which are described using activity codes only. For the full titles and definition of areas, applicants must refer to the Work Programme (Section 1.3 Technical Content). The evaluation of proposals will be based on the full definition as described in the Work Programme.

(i) **Advanced genomics and its applications for health**

(a) *Fundamental knowledge and basic tools for functional genomics in all organisms*

Topic reference	Instrument
Gene expression and proteomics	
LSH-2004-1.1.1-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.1.1-2	IP
Structural genomics	
LSH-2004-1.1.2-1	IP
Comparative genomics and population genetics	
LSH-2004-1.1.3-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.1.3-2	IP
Bioinformatics	
LSH-2004-1.1.4-1	NoE
Multidisciplinary functional genomics approaches to basic biological processes	
LSH-2004-1.1.5-1	IP or NoE
LSH-2004-1.1.5-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.1.5-3	NoE
LSH-2004-1.1.5-4	NoE or IP
LSH-2004-1.1.5-5	IP
Across the area	
LSH-2004-1.1.0-1	STREP
LSH-2004-1.1.0-2	CA
LSH-2004-1.1.0-3	SSA

(b) *Application of knowledge and technologies in the field of genomics and biotechnology for health*

Topic reference	Instrument
Rational and accelerated development of new, safer, more effective drugs including pharmacogenomics approaches	
LSH-2004-1.2.1-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-3	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-4	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-5	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-6	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.1-7	SSA
Development of new diagnostics	
LSH-2004-1.2.2-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-2	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-3	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-4	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.2-5	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.2-6	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.2-7	SSA
Development of new in vitro tests to replace animal experimentation	
LSH-2004-1.2.3-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.3-2	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.3-3	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.3-4	SSA
LSH-2004-1.2.3-5	SSA
Development and testing of new preventive and therapeutic tools, such as somatic gene and cell therapies (in particular stem cell therapies, for example those on neurological and neuromuscular disorders) and immunotherapies	
LSH-2004-1.2.4-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-3	NoE
LSH-2004-1.2.4-4	STREP

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-1.2.4-5	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-6	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-7	STREP
LSH-2004-1.2.4-8	SSA
Innovative research in post-genomics, which has high potential for application	
LSH-2004-1.2.5-1	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.5-2	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.5-3	IP
LSH-2004-1.2.5-4	STREP

(ii) **Combating major diseases**(a) *Application-orientated genomic approaches to medical knowledge and technologies*

Topic reference	Instrument
General	
LSH-2004-2.1.0-1	SSA
Combating, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and rare diseases	
LSH-2004-2.1.1-1	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-3	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-5	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-6	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-7	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-8	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-9	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-10	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.1-11	CA
LSH-2004-2.1.1-12	CA/SSA
Combating resistance to antibiotics and other drugs	
LSH-2004-2.1.2-1	NoE
LSH-2004-2.1.2-2	STREP

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.1.2-3	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.2-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.2-5	SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.2-6	SSA
Studying the brain and combating diseases of the nervous system	
LSH-2004-2.1.3-1	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.3-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.3-3	STREP/CA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.3-5	CA/SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-6	SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-7	SSA
LSH-2004-2.1.3-8	SSA
Studying human development and the ageing process	
LSH-2004-2.1.4-1	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-3	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-4	STREP
LSH-2004-2.1.4-5	SSA

(b) *Combating cancer*

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.2.0-1	NoE
LSH-2004-2.2.0-2	IP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-3	IP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-4	NoE
LSH-2004-2.2.0-5	IP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-6	STREP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-7	STREP
LSH-2004-2.2.0-8	STREP

(c) *Confronting the major communicable diseases linked to poverty*

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.3.0-1	IP/NoE
LSH-2004-2.3.0-2	IP

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-2.3.0-3	IP/NoE
LSH-2004-2.3.0-4	IP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-5	STREP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-6	STREP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-7	STREP
LSH-2004-2.3.0-8	CA
LSH-2004-2.3.0-9	CA

SSAs across Thematic Priority 1

Topic reference	Instrument
LSH-2004-3-1	SSA
LSH-2004-3-2	SSA
LSH-2004-3-3	SSA
LSH-2004-3-4	SSA
LSH-2004-3-5	SSA
LSH-2004-3-6	SSA
LSH-2004-3-7	SSA
LSH-2004-3-8	SSA

9. Minimum number of participants ⁽¹⁾:

Instrument	Minimum number of participants
IP, NOE, STREP and CA	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC.
SSA	One legal entity from a MS or AS.

10. Restriction on participation: None.

11. Consortia agreements:

- Participants in IP and NOE are required to conclude a consortium agreement.
- Participants in STREP, CA and SSA resulting from this call are encouraged, but not required, to conclude a consortium agreement.

12. Evaluation procedure:

- the evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure,
- proposals will not be evaluated anonymously,
- the evaluation process may involve 'remote' evaluation of proposals,
- applicants may be invited to discuss their proposal.

⁽¹⁾ Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participant may be the sole participant in an indirect action

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13. **Evaluation criteria:** See Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.
 14. **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:**
 - evaluation results: estimated to be available within some four months after the closure date,
 - contract signature: it is estimated that the first contracts related to this call will come into force by the end of 2005.
-

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Implementation of the programme to encourage the development, distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works

Call for proposals – DG EAC No 32/04

(2004/C 158/05)

GROWTH AND AUDIOVISUAL: I2I AUDIOVISUAL**1. Introduction**

This call for proposals is based on Council Decision 2000/821/EC of 20 December 2000 on the implementation of a programme to encourage the development, distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works (MEDIA PLUS — Development, Distribution and Promotion 2001–2005) that was published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* No L 336 of 30 December 2000, p. 82.

The measures covered by the Decision include the development of production project.

2. Objectives and description

The objective of this support is to facilitate access to external funding from banks and financial institutions for independent European Production companies. The aim of this call for proposals is to reduce the costs of:

- insurance for audiovisual productions: Module 1 - support the 'Insurance' item in a production budget.
- completion guarantee for the production of an audiovisual work: Module 2 - Support for the item 'completion guarantee' in a production budget.
- bank loans to finance the production of a work: Module 3 - Support for the item 'financial costs' in a production budget.

3. Eligible candidates

This Call for Proposals is open to independent European production companies registered in: The 25 countries of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Bulgaria.

4. Budget and duration of the projects

The total budget available is EUR 2,7 million. The financial contribution of the Commission may not exceed 50 % - (60 %) of the eligible costs. The amount of the support is between EUR 1,500 and EUR 50,000. The maximum amount of support is limited to EUR 50,000

Projects must start between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2004. The maximum duration of the project will be 35 months.

5. Deadline

The deadline for submission of applications for this Call for Proposals is 6 August 2004.

6. Further information

European companies wishing to respond to this Call for Proposals and receive the document 'Guidelines for the submission of proposals – growth and audiovisual: i2i audiovisual' should send their request to by post or fax to:

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Costas Daskalakis

DG EAC/ C3

office B100 4/27

rue de Genève 1

B - 1049 Brussels

Fax: (+32-2) 2 299 92 14.

The full text of this call for proposals may be found on the internet http://europa.eu.int/comm/avpolicy/media/i2iav_en.html.

Applications must respect the guidelines for this call for proposals and be submitted using the relevant application forms

Call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'

(2004/C 158/06)

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006) ⁽¹⁾, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area' (2002-2006) ⁽²⁾ (referred to as the specific programme).

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as the Commission) has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme ⁽³⁾ (referred to as the work programme) setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 16 December 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006) ⁽⁴⁾ (referred to as the rules for participation), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present call for proposals for indirect RTD actions (referred to as the call) comprise(s) the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the Annex. The Annex indicates in particular, the date of closure for the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.

3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (referred to as the proposers) are invited to submit to the Commission propo-

sals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The conditions of participation of the proposers will be verified within the framework of the negotiation of the indirect RTD action. Before that however, proposers will have signed a declaration stating that they do not fall under any of the cases given by Article 93(1) of the Financial Regulation. They will also have given the Commission the information listed in Article 173(2) of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, of 23 December 2002, laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the call which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. The Commission also makes available Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures ⁽⁷⁾. These guides and guidelines, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the call, can be obtained from the Commission via the following addresses:

European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be submitted in accordance with the following procedures:

- as an electronic proposal via the web-based Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) ⁽⁸⁾; or
- on paper forms.

All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line. Part B of proposals for indirect RTD actions can only be submitted in pdf (portable document format, compatible with Adobe Version 3 or higher with embedded fonts). Compressed (zipped) files will be excluded.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, as modified by C(2003)577, C(2003)955, C(2003)1952, C(2003)3543, C(2003)3555, C(2003)4609, C(2003)5183, C(2004)433, and C(2004)2002, all decisions unpublished.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ C(2003)883 of 27 March 2003, as last modified by C(2004)1855 of 18 May 2004.

⁽⁸⁾ The EPSS is a tool to assist proposers to develop and submit their proposals electronically.

The EPSS software tool (for off-line or on-line usage) is available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete, illegible or contain viruses will be excluded.

Versions of proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on a removable electronic storage medium (e.g., CD-ROM, diskette), by email or by fax will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may also be prepared and submitted using the forms in the guide for proposers (referred to as on paper), or using the off-line version of the EPSS.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on paper and which are incomplete will be excluded.

Further details on the various proposal submission procedures are given in Annex J of the Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on paper by post must be received by the Commission at the following address, and labelled as follows:

FP6 - Research Proposals
(Call identifier: FP6-2004-ACC-SSA-2)
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

For deliveries by hand or by representatives (including by private courier services⁽¹⁾), the delivery should be to the following address, and labelled as follows:

FP6 - Research Proposals
(Call identifier: FP6-2004-ACC-SSA-2)
European Commission
Rue de Genève/Genèvestraat, 1
B-1140 Brussels

7. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions not satisfying the conditions relating to the minimum number of participants indicated in the call concerned will be excluded.

This also applies regarding any additional eligibility criteria given in the work programme.

8. In the case of successive submissions of the same proposal for an indirect RTD action, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

Where the same proposal for an indirect RTD action is submitted on paper and in electronic format (i.e., on-line), the Commission will only examine the text submitted under the electronic format.

9. If foreseen in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions could be evaluated in the framework of a future evaluation.

10. In all correspondence relating to a call (e.g., when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

⁽¹⁾ Users of courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should give the following number: (32-2) 29 96206 (Ms Virginia Enache).

ANNEX

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.
2. **Thematic priority/domain:** All thematic priority areas.
3. **Call title:** Specific Support Actions (SSA) for Associated Candidate Countries.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-ACC-SSA-2
5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004
6. **Closure date:** 14 October 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 19 800 000.
8. **Area and instruments:**

Area	Instruments
See Annex D of the work programme	Specific support action

9. **Minimum number of participants:**

Instrument	Minimum number
Specific support action	One legal entity from one ACC ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ ACC: Associated candidate countries – Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey.

10. **Restriction to participation:** none
11. **Consortium agreement:** Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are not required to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. **Evaluation procedure:**
 - the evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure,
 - proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
13. **Evaluation criteria:** see Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.
14. **Indicative evaluation and selection timetable:**
 - evaluation results: two months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6,
 - contract signature: six months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6.

Call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'

(2004/C 158/07)

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006) ⁽¹⁾, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area' (2002-2006) ⁽²⁾ (referred to as the specific programme).

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as the Commission) has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme ⁽³⁾ (referred to as the work programme) setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 16 December 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006) ⁽⁴⁾ (referred to as the rules for participation), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present call for proposals for indirect RTD actions (referred to as the call) comprise(s) the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the Annex. The Annex indicates in particular, the date of closure for the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.

3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the

general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (referred to as the proposers) are invited to submit to the Commission proposals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The conditions of participation of the proposers will be verified within the framework of the negotiation of the indirect RTD action. Before that however, proposers will have signed a declaration stating that they do not fall under any of the cases given by Article 93(1) of the Financial Regulation. They will also have given the Commission the information listed in Article 173(2) of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, of 23 December 2002, laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the calls which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. The Commission also makes available Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures ⁽⁷⁾. These guides and guidelines, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via the following addresses:

European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be submitted in accordance with the following procedures:

- as an electronic proposal via the web-based Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) ⁽⁸⁾; or
- on paper forms.

All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, as modified by C(2003)577, C(2003)955, C(2003)1952, C(2003)3543, C(2003)3555, C(2003)4609, C(2003)5183, C(2004)433, and C(2004)2002, all decisions unpublished.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ C(2003)883 of 27/3/2003, as last modified by C(2004)1855 of 18.5.2004.

⁽⁸⁾ The EPSS is a tool to assist proposers to develop and submit their proposals electronically.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line. Part B of proposals for indirect RTD actions can only be submitted in pdf (portable document format, compatible with Adobe Version 3 or higher with embedded fonts). Compressed (zipped) files will be excluded.

The EPSS software tool (for off-line or on-line usage) is available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete, illegible or contain viruses will be excluded.

Versions of proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on a removable electronic storage medium (eg, CD-ROM, diskette), by email or by fax will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may also be prepared and submitted using the forms in the guide for proposers (referred to as on paper), or using the off-line version of the EPSS.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on paper and which are incomplete will be excluded.

Further details on the various proposal submission procedures are given in Annex J of the Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on paper by post must be received by the Commission at the following address, and labelled as follows:

'FP6 - Research Proposals'
(Call identifier: FP6-2004-TC-SSA-GENERAL)
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

For deliveries by hand or by representatives (including by private courier services⁽¹⁾), the delivery should be to the following address, and labelled as follows:

'FP6 - Research Proposals'
(Call identifier: FP6-2004-TC-SSA-GENERAL)
European Commission
Rue de Genève/Genèvestraat, 1
B-1140 Brussels

7. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions not satisfying the conditions relating to the minimum number of participants indicated in the call concerned will be excluded.

This also applies regarding any additional eligibility criteria given in the work programme.

8. In the case of successive submissions of the same proposal for an indirect RTD action, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

Where the same proposal for an indirect RTD action is submitted on paper and in electronic format (i.e., on-line), the Commission will only examine the text submitted under the electronic format.

9. If foreseen in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions could be evaluated in the framework of a future evaluation.

10. In all correspondence relating to a call (e.g., when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

⁽¹⁾ Users of courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should give the following number: (32-2) 2993061 (Mr Daniel Descoutures).

ANNEX

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.
2. **Thematic priority/Domain:** All thematic priority areas.
3. **Call title:** Specific Support Actions (SSA) for targeted countries.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004 –TC-SSA-General.
5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004.
6. **Closure dates:** 14 October 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 2 900 000.
8. **Area & instruments:**

Area	Instruments
See Annex E of the Work Programme	Specific support action

9. **Minimum number of participants:**

Instrument	Minimum number
Specific support action	1 legal entity from one country having an S&T cooperation agreement with the EC or in the process of negotiating such an agreement ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ as specified in the work programme, selected participants from third countries which have an S&T cooperation agreement with the EC or in process of negotiating such an agreement may receive a Community financial contribution.

10. **Restriction to participation:** none.
11. **Consortium agreement:** Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are not required to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. **Evaluation procedure:**
 - the evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure,
 - proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
13. **Evaluation criteria:** see Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.
14. **Indicative evaluation and selection delays:**
 - Evaluation results: two months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6
 - Contract signature: six months after the relevant closure date mentioned in point 6

Calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'

(2004/C 158/08)

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006) ⁽¹⁾, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area' (2002-2006) ⁽²⁾ (referred to as the specific programme).

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as the Commission) has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme ⁽³⁾ (referred to as the work programme) setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 16 December 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006) ⁽⁴⁾ (referred to as the rules for participation), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions (referred to as the calls) comprise the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the annexes. The annexes indicate in particular, the date of closure for the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.

3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (referred to as 'the proposers') are invited to submit to the Commission propo-

sals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The conditions of participation of the proposers will be verified within the framework of the negotiation of the indirect RTD action. Before that however, proposers will have signed a declaration stating that they do not fall under any of the cases given by Article 93(1) of the Financial Regulation. They will also have given the Commission the information listed in Article 173(2) of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, of 23 December 2002, laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the calls which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. The Commission also makes available Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures ⁽⁷⁾. These guides and guidelines, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via the following addresses:

European Commission
The FP6 Information Desk
Directorate General RTD
B-1049 Brussels, Belgium
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/fp6

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions are invited to be submitted only as an electronic proposal via the web-based Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS ⁽⁸⁾). In exceptional cases, however, a co-ordinator may request permission from the Commission to submit on paper in advance of a call deadline. This should be done by writing to one of the following addresses: Commission, Directorate General RTD, Directorate G, Office: MO75 6-13, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium, Tel. (32-2) 296.70.23 or rtd-nmp@cec.eu.int. The request must be accompanied by an explanation of why the exception is being sought. Proposers wishing to use paper submission take the responsibility for ensuring that such requests for exemption and the associated procedures are completed in time for them to meet the call deadline.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, as modified by C(2003)577, C(2003)955, C(2003)1952, C(2003)3543, C(2003)3555, C(2003)4609, C(2003)5183, C(2004)433, and C(2004)2002, all decisions unpublished.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ C(2003)883 of 27/3/2003, as last modified by C(2004)1855 of 18.5.2004.

⁽⁸⁾ The EPSS is a tool to assist proposers to develop and submit their proposals electronically.

All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line. Part B of proposals for indirect RTD actions can only be submitted in pdf (portable document format, compatible with Adobe Version 3 or higher with embedded fonts). Compressed (zipped) files will be excluded.

The EPSS software tool (for off-line or on-line usage) is available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete, illegible or contain viruses will be excluded.

Versions of proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on a removable electronic storage medium (eg, CD-ROM, diskette), by email or by fax will be excluded.

Any proposal for indirect RTD actions that has been allowed to be submitted on paper and which is incomplete will be excluded.

Further details on the various proposal submission procedures are given in Annex J of the Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions not satisfying the conditions relating to the minimum number of participants indicated in the call concerned will be excluded.

This also applies regarding any additional eligibility criteria given in the work programme.

7. In the case of successive submissions of the same proposal for an indirect RTD action, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

8. If foreseen in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions could be evaluated in the framework of a future evaluation.

9. In all correspondence relating to a call (e.g. when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

ANNEX 1

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.
2. **Thematic priorities/domains:** Thematic priority 2: 'Information Society Technologies' (IST) and thematic priority 3: 'Nanotechnologies and nanosciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, and new production processes and devices' (NMP).
3. **Call title:** Second joint call between thematic priorities 2 and 3
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-IST-NMP-2.
5. **Date of publication** ⁽¹⁾: 15 June 2004.
6. **Closure date** ⁽²⁾: 14 October 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 180 million with, indicatively, a balanced breakdown of funds between the three different objectives (joint budget between Priority 2 and Priority 3).
8. **Areas and instruments:** Proposals are invited to address the following objectives:

Area	Instruments
IST-NMP-1 Integrating Technologies for the Fast and Flexible Manufacturing Enterprise	IP; STREP; SSA
IST-NMP-2 Bio-sensors for Diagnosis and Healthcare	IP; STREP; SSA
IST-NMP-3 Materials, Equipment and Processes for Production of Nano-Photonic and Nano-Electronic Devices	IP; STREP; SSA

9. **Minimum number of participants** ⁽³⁾:

Objective	Minimum number
IP and STREP	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC
SSA	One legal entity

Industry is expected to take a leading role in the IP's and, whenever appropriate in the STREP's

10. **Restriction to participation:** None.
11. **Consortium agreement:** Participants in IPs are required to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. **Evaluation procedure:** The evaluation shall follow a one-stage procedure. Proposers are required to respect the maximum number of pages (font size 12) as described in the Guide for Proposers. Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
13. **Evaluation criteria:** See Annex B of the work programme for the applicable criteria per instrument.
14. **Indicative evaluation and selection delays:** Evaluation results are estimated to be available within two months after the closure date.

⁽¹⁾ The Director-Generals responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date of publication.
⁽²⁾ Where the envisaged date of publication is anticipated or delayed (see footnote above), closure date will be adjusted accordingly, if needed, in the published call for proposals.
⁽³⁾ MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC: Associated candidate countries. Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participants may be the sole participant in an indirect action.

ANNEX 2

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area.
2. **Activities:** Priority Thematic Area of research 'Nanotechnology and nanosciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials, new production processes and devices'.
3. **Call title:** EC-NSF coordinated activity in computational materials research.
4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-NMP-NSF-1.
5. **Date of publication** ⁽¹⁾: 15 June 2004.
6. **Closure date** ⁽²⁾: 14 October 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).
7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 6 million (a similar level of funding is expected from NSF to support US research teams in the projects).

Instrument	(EUR millions)
STREPs,	6 (*)

(*) Considering the indicative budget available for this call, about five proposals are expected to be supported.

8. **Areas called and instruments:**

Area	Instrument
NMP-NSF-1 EU-NSF coordinated activities in Computational materials research	STREP

9. **Minimum number of participants:**

Instrument	Minimum number of participants
STREP	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC (*)

(*) A balanced participation of partners from Europe and the United States is requested.

10. **Restriction on participation:** None.
11. **Consortia agreements:** Participants in STREP resulting from this call are encouraged, but not required, to conclude a consortium agreement.
12. **Evaluation procedure:**
 - For STREP proposals, the evaluation shall follow a single stage procedure, according to the rules set out for FP6 and annex B of the NMP work programme edition December 2003. NSF evaluation procedures will be applied for proposals submitted to NSF ⁽³⁾.
 - Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.
13. **Evaluation criteria:**
 - See Annex B of the NMP work programme (edition 2003) for the applicable criteria (including their individual weights and thresholds and the overall threshold) per instrument.
 - Attention will be given to the relevance of the proposals with regard to the general objectives of priority 3 as well as the specific objectives described for each topics covered by the call.
14. **Indicative evaluation and contractual timetable:** Evaluation results: estimated to be available within two months after the closure date.

⁽¹⁾ The Director-General responsible for the publication of this call may publish it up to one month prior or after its envisaged publication date.

⁽²⁾ When the envisaged date of publication is either advanced or delayed (see previous footnote), closure date will be adjusted accordingly, if needed.

⁽³⁾ Proposals should be sent concurrently to both the EC and the NSF to apply for financial support. No overseas cash flow will occur. The European research teams will send the proposal to the EC, according to the FP6 rules, the US research teams to the NSF (see web address: www.nsf.org). The two proposals should follow respectively the EC and NSF guidelines for proposers, but their technical part should be common.

Calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area'

Activity: thematic priority area: information society technologies

Call identifier: FP6-2004-IST-3

Call identifier: FP6-2004-IST-FETPI

(2004/C 158/09)

1. In accordance with Decision No 1513/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 June 2002, concerning the sixth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European Research Area and to innovation (2002 to 2006) ⁽¹⁾, the Council adopted on 30 September 2002 the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration: 'Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area' (2002-2006) ⁽²⁾ (referred to as the specific programme).

In accordance with Article 5(1) of the specific programme, the Commission of the European Communities (referred to as the Commission) has adopted on 9 December 2002 a work programme ⁽³⁾ (referred to as the work programme) setting out in greater detail the objectives and scientific and technological priorities of the specific programme, and the timetable for implementation.

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 16 December 2002, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in, and for the dissemination of research results for, the implementation of the European Community Sixth Framework Programme (2002 to 2006) ⁽⁴⁾ (referred to as the rules for participation), proposals for indirect RTD actions should be submitted under the terms of calls for proposals.

2. The present calls for proposals for indirect RTD actions (referred to as the calls) comprise the present general part and the specific conditions that are described in the Annexes. The Annexes indicate in particular, the dates of closure for the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions, an indicative date for the completion of the evaluations, the indicative budget, the instruments and the areas concerned, the evaluation criteria for the evaluation of proposals for indirect RTD actions, the minimum number of participants, and any applicable restrictions.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 232, 29.8.2002, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 294, 29.10.2002, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2002)4789, as modified by C(2003)577, C(2003)955, C(2003)1952, C(2003)3543, C(2003)3555, C(2003)4609, C(2003)5183, C(2004)433, and C(2004)2002, all decisions unpublished.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 355, 30.12.2002, p. 23.

3. Natural or legal persons fulfilling the conditions stated in the rules for participation and that do not fall under any of the exclusion cases in the rules for participation or in Article 114(2) of the Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁵⁾ (referred to as the proposers) are invited to submit to the Commission proposals for indirect RTD actions subject to the conditions in the rules for participation and in the call concerned being fulfilled.

The conditions of participation of the proposers will be verified within the framework of the negotiation of the indirect RTD action. Before that however, proposers will have signed a declaration stating that they do not fall under any of the cases given by Article 93(1) of the Financial Regulation. They will also have given the Commission the information listed in Article 173(2) of the Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002, of 23 December 2002, laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities ⁽⁶⁾.

The European Community has adopted an equal opportunities policy and, on this basis, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals for indirect RTD actions or participate in the submission of proposals for indirect RTD actions.

4. The Commission makes available to proposers guides for proposers relating to the calls which contain information on the preparation and the submission of a proposal for an indirect RTD action. The Commission also makes available Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures ⁽⁷⁾. These guides and guidelines, as well as the work programme and other information relating to the calls, can be obtained from the Commission via the following address:

European Commission
The IST Information Desk
Directorate General INFSO
BU31 1/19
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail address: ist@cec.eu.int
Internet address: www.cordis.lu/ist

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ C(2003)883 of 27 March 2003, as last modified by C(2004)1855 of 18 May 2004.

5. Proposals for indirect RTD actions are invited to be submitted only as an electronic proposal via the web-based Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) ⁽¹⁾. In exceptional cases, however, a coordinator may request permission from the Commission to submit on paper in advance of a call deadline. This should be done by writing to one of the following addresses:

European Commission
The IST Information Desk
Directorate General INFSO
BU31 1/19
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail address: ist@cec.eu.int

The request must be accompanied by an explanation of why the exception is being sought. Proposers wishing to use paper submission take the responsibility for ensuring that such requests for exemption and the associated procedures are completed in time for them to meet the call deadline.

All proposals for indirect RTD actions must contain two parts: the forms (Part A) and the content (Part B).

Proposals for indirect RTD actions may be prepared off-line or on-line and submitted on-line. Part B of proposals for indirect RTD actions can only be submitted in PDF (portable document format, compatible with Adobe Version 3 or higher with embedded fonts). Compressed (zipped) files will be excluded.

The EPSS software tool (for off-line or on-line usage) is available via the Cordis website www.cordis.lu.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions that are submitted on-line and which are incomplete, illegible or contain viruses will be excluded.

Versions of proposals for indirect RTD actions submitted on a removable electronic storage medium (eg, CD-ROM, diskette), by email or by fax will be excluded.

Any proposal for indirect RTD actions that has been allowed to be submitted on paper and which is incomplete will be excluded.

Further details on the various proposal submission procedures are given in Annex J of the Guidelines on Proposal Evaluation and Selection Procedures.

6. Proposals for indirect RTD actions have to reach the Commission at the latest on the closure date and at the time specified in the call concerned. Proposals for indirect RTD actions arriving after this date and time will be excluded.

Proposals for indirect RTD actions not satisfying the conditions relating to the minimum number of participants indicated in the call concerned will be excluded.

This also applies regarding any additional eligibility criteria given in the work programme.

7. In the case of successive submissions of the same proposal for an indirect RTD action, the Commission will examine the last version received before the closure date and time specified in the call concerned.

8. If foreseen in the relevant call, proposals for indirect RTD actions could be evaluated in the framework of a future evaluation.

9. In all correspondence relating to a call (e.g. when requesting information, or submitting a proposal for an indirect RTD action), proposers are invited to cite the relevant call identifier.

⁽¹⁾ The EPSS is a tool to assist proposers to develop and submit their proposals electronically.

ANNEX

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.

2. **Thematic priority/domain:** Information Society Technologies (IST).

3. **Call title:** Call 3 of the IST priority.

4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-IST-3.

5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004.

6. **Closure date:** 22 September 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time).

7. **Total indicative budget:** 28 million Euro of which:

— EUR 10 million for objective 2.3.6.1,

— EUR 8 million for objective 2.3.6.2,

— EUR 10 million for objective 2.3.6.3.

8. **Areas and instruments:**

Proposals are invited to address the following objectives:

— 2.3.6.1: to stimulate, encourage and facilitate the participation of organisations from the New Member States (NMS) and the Associated Candidate Countries (ACC) in the activities of IST,

— 2.3.6.2: to prepare for future international cooperation in IST,

— 2.3.6.3: to progress towards the achievement of the objectives of a European Research Area in a given IST field. (See point 10 below for restriction to participation for Coordination Actions).

The objectives are open for actions using the following instruments:

Objective	Instrument(s)
2.3.6.1	Specific support actions
2.3.6.2 and 2.3.6.3	Coordination actions, specific support actions

9. **Minimum number of participants ⁽¹⁾:**

Objective	Minimum number
All objectives	For coordination actions: Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC. For specific support actions: One legal entity.

⁽¹⁾ MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC: Associated candidate countries. Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participant may be the sole participant in an indirect action.

10. Restriction to participation:

Objective	Restriction
2.3.6.1 and 2.3.6.2	No restriction.
2.3.6.3	<p>For coordination actions:</p> <p>The minimum number of participants must include only: (i) public bodies responsible for financing or managing research activities carried out at national or regional level, (ii) other national or regional organisations that finance or manage such research activities, or (iii) bodies operating at European level that include as part of their mission the pan-European co-ordination of nationally-funded research.</p> <p>The following legal entities may participate without restriction in addition to the minimum number of participants: (a) charities or other private organisations, which also manage research programmes that are strategically planned and executed at national or regional level, or (b) key participants in national or regional research activities who bring technical expertise in support of activities such as roadmapping or development of long-term shared visions.</p> <p>For specific support actions:</p> <p>No restriction.</p>

11. Consortium agreement:

Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are required to conclude a consortium agreement.

12. Evaluation procedure:

The evaluation shall follow a one-stage procedure. Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.

13. Evaluation criteria:

See section 2.5 of the IST 2003-04 Work Programme ⁽¹⁾.

14. Indicative evaluation and selection delays:

Evaluation results are estimated to be available within two months after the closure date.

Future and emerging technologies (FET) – proactive initiatives

1. **Specific programme:** Integrating and Strengthening the European Research Area.

2. **Thematic priority/domain:** Information Society Technologies (IST).

3. **Call title:** Future and Emerging Technologies - Proactive Initiatives.

4. **Call identifier:** FP6-2004-IST-FETPI.

5. **Date of publication:** 15 June 2004

6. **Closure date(s)** ⁽²⁾: 22 September 2004 at 17.00 (Brussels local time)

7. **Total indicative budget:** EUR 80 million

⁽¹⁾ See Information Society Technologies on http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/sp1_wp.htm.

⁽²⁾ Pre-proposals may be submitted by e-mail or fax at any time up to 1 July 2004.

8. Areas and instruments:

Areas addressed in the call are:

- 2.3.4.2.(iv): Quantum information processing and communications,
- 2.3.4.2.(v): Global computing,
- 2.3.4.2.(vi): Emerging nanoelectronics,
- 2.3.4.2.(vii): Bio-inspired intelligent information systems.

The areas are open for actions using the following instruments:

Area	Instrument(s)
2.3.4.2.(iv)	Integrated projects
2.3.4.2.(v), 2.3.4.2.(vi), 2.3.4.2.(vii)	Integrated projects, networks of excellence ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ See section 2.3.4.2. of the IST 2003-04 Work Programme.

9. Minimum number of participants ⁽¹⁾:

Area	Minimum number
All areas	Three independent legal entities from three different MS or AS, with at least two MS or ACC

10. Restriction to participation:

None.

11. Consortium agreement:

Participants in RTD actions resulting from this call are required to conclude a consortium agreement.

12. Evaluation procedure:

The evaluation shall follow a one-stage procedure. Proposals will not be evaluated anonymously.

13. Evaluation criteria:

See section 2.5 of the IST 2003-04 Work Programme ⁽²⁾.

14. Indicative evaluation and selection delays:

Evaluation results are estimated to be available within two months after the closure date.

⁽¹⁾ MS = Member States of the EU; AS (incl. ACC) = Associated States; ACC: Associated candidate countries. Any legal entity established in a Member State or Associated State and which is made up of the requested number of participant may be the sole participant in an indirect action.

⁽²⁾ See Information Society Technologies on http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/sp1_wp.htm.