

Call for applications in the context of Directive 2005/32/EC (EuP: Eco-design of Energy-using Products) establishing a group of experts called “Eco-design Consultation Forum”

The Directive establishes a framework for setting eco-design requirements applicable to energy-using products covered by implementing measures. The objective is to guarantee their free movement in the internal market, increase their energy efficiency and improve their environmental performance; in order to achieve the environmental improvement in a cost-effective way, the environmental impact of the product throughout its life-cycle is considered.

Directive 2005/32/EC (Article 18) establishes a group of experts called “Consultation Forum” which will allow stakeholders to be informed and provide their contribution on the implementation of the Directive. The task of the group of experts is to contribute in particular to the definition and review of the implementing measures, to monitoring the efficiency of the established market surveillance mechanisms and to the assessment of voluntary agreements and other self-regulatory measures taken in the context of the Directive. The Forum is also consulted by the Commission during the periodic modification of the working plan.

The Commission services are therefore proceeding to a call for applications with a view to identifying organisations which would like to take part in the Forum.

The group of experts will be composed of maximum 50 members, including one representative from each Member State and acceding country; it will be open for observers from candidate and EFTA countries. The qualified organisations will be selected by the Commission services on the basis of Article 18 of Directive 2005/32/EC which foresees participation to the Forum of Member States and all interested parties, including SMEs and craft industry, trade unions, traders, retailers, importers, environmental protection groups and consumer organisations.

The Commission services will take into account the following criteria when assessing applications:

- proven competence, experience and representativity, at European level, in the areas relevant for Directive 2005/32/EC
- the representatives participating in the expert group meetings must be nationals of a Member State of the EU or, if appropriate, of an acceding state or of an EFTA country.

The duly signed applications must be sent in by 31st March 2006 at the latest:

To DG Enterprise and Industry:

either by e-mail :

Entr-Mechan-Electr-Equipm@cec.eu.int

Copy to: Michail.Papadoyannakis@cec.eu.int

or by letter (date as postmarked) to the following address: European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry, Unit H5 secretariat, B-1049 Brussels,

or hand-delivered against a receipt to the following address: European Commission, DG Enterprise and Industry, Unit H5 secretariat, Avenue d'Auderghem 45, BREY 09/198

OR

To DG Energy and Transport:

either by email:

TREN-EcoDesign@cec.eu.int

Copy to: Andras.Toth@cec.eu.int

or by letter (date as postmarked) to the following address: European Commission, DG Energy and Transport, Unit D3 secretariat, B-1049 Brussels,

or hand-delivered against a receipt to the following address: European Commission, DG Energy and Transport, Unit D3 secretariat, Rue De Mot 24, DM 04/04.

Each application letter must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union, including any useful supporting documentation. All applicant organisations must describe in full their experience, expertise and representativity.

The letter will indicate in particular:

- which interested parties among those named in Article 18 of the Directive the organisation claims to represent
- by which products or other areas linked to the concrete implementation of the Directive the organisation feels concerned
- that the organisation will be habilitated to commit the members it represents in the Forum on the points covered by the agenda.

Candidate organisations will be selected by the Commission services in principle for a 3 years' mandate, tacitly renewable.

The Commission will not reimburse travel and subsistence expenses in connection with the activities of the group of experts, except for the travel expenses of representatives from Member States and acceding states in accordance with the provisions in force at the Commission.

The list of members of the Consultation Forum will be published on the Internet sites of DG Enterprise and Industry and of DG Transport and Energy. The individual members' names, if appropriate, will be collected, processed and published in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.¹

For any further information please contact Mr Michail PAPADOYANNAKIS (telephone +32-2-2963914, fax 32-2-2966273, e-mail: Michail.Papadoyannakis@cec.eu.int) or Mr Andras TOTH (telephone +32-2-2981447, fax: +32-2-2966016, email: Andras.Toth@cec.eu.int).

¹ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8 of 12.1.2001, p. 1).