

7th August 2009

**CLARIFICATION no. 3
to call for tender
ENV.A.1/SER/2009/0048**

- 1. Element 2 of the technical proposal described in section 6.3 on page 11 of the specifications document includes a total budget proposal for each of the EU-27 countries individually. Are we correct to interpret this total budget proposal as proposal regarding the distribution of the budget among the 27 countries (i.e. are we to state a full sum per country) or are we supposed to allocate the budget on the media channels chosen for each country?**

You interpretation that this regards distribution of the budget among the 27 countries is correct.

- 2. On page 9 of the specifications document, the terms of payment are outlined as being made in three lumps - one being paid up front, one upon acceptance of the interim report and one upon acceptance of the final report. We understand that payment here does not only consist of a service compensation for the winning agency but also includes the media spends. Consequently, the winning agency will have to make advance payments for buying the media. Is this interpretation correct? Further, does "acceptance" here mean that the EC reserves the right to refuse reimbursement of these advance investments under certain circumstances? What would constitute those circumstances?**

Yes, your understanding is correct that the agency will have to make advance payments for buying the media.

'Acceptance' means here that interim and final payment are conditional to acceptance by the Commission of the interim or final report respectively. Consequently, circumstances where the payment of an invoice may not be initiated by the Commission would include eg. situation when the interim or final report is not provided at all or is judged by the desk officer in charge of the file not to be of not sufficient quality.

Furhter information on payment conditions by the Commission may be found in the in the 'Article II.4 – Payments' of the Model Service Contract published together with the techncial specifications for this call for tender (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/calls_en.htm).