



TWINNING NEWS

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BUILDING EUROPE TOGETHER

Per Diems 2nd Semester 2010

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Twinning: Application of new per diem rates for the second half of 2010

The latest adjustment of the maximum rates of per diem paid to experts on mission undertaken in the framework of an EU funded contract has been published by Directorate General EuropeAid (AIDCO) at the beginning of July 2010 and are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/per_diems/index_en.htm

The AIDCO per diem rates are based on United Nations rates, which are set in accordance with annual country survey missions conducted by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC).

The UN data are derived from price surveys of good commercial hotels and meal costs for the respective third countries, which are bolstered by an additional amount of 15 percent for incidental expenses. As these United Nations rates are expressed in US dollars, the AIDCO maximum per diem rates are the result of a conversion of these US dollar based rates into EUR.

Exchange rate fluctuations between USD and EUR during the period stretching from the last global revision at the end of 2009 and June 2010 have had a substantial impact on the per diem rates. In particular, the significant sliding of the EUR against the USD has resulted in steep increases of the rates expressed in EUR.

Considering the high short-term turbulences in currency exchange rates and in order to ensure

sufficient means for Twinning projects implementation, it has been decided that, for the purpose of assistance provided through the Twinning and TAIEX instruments, all increases that according to the UN rates exceed 10% are capped at this percentage.

Please find herewith for your easy reference the list with the adjusted rates specifically compiled for Candidate Countries and Potential Candidate Countries, as well as for countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy and Russia.

For Twinning projects in Turkey, the arrangement announced in the letter of Mr. Meganck of 14 November 2006 remains valid: the per diem for Istanbul will continue to apply to all Twinning projects in Turkey rather than the per diem for Ankara. The capping at 10% of the increase is applied also in this case.

The new rates are applicable as of 10 July 2010.

The above capping will be reconsidered on the occasion of the next adjustment at the end of the year.

It is reminded that the common Twinning manual clearly provides under section 5.6.2 (all versions) that the date of the mission determines the rate applicable and that the rate can therefore vary over the lifetime of a Twinning project.

On the contrary, the subsistence allowance of RTAs is not subject to revision during the lifetime of the project.

| Candidate and Potential Candidates | Previous per diem rate in € | New per diem rate in € as of 10/07/2010 |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Croatia | 222 | 244 |
| Turkey | 161 (ref. letter of 14.11.2006) | 177 (ref. letter of 14.11.2006) |
| the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 160 | 157 |
| Albania | 217 | 239 |
| Bosnia -Herzegovina | 143 | 159 |
| Serbia | 234 | 257 |
| Montenegro | 188 | 161 |
| Kosovo (UNSCR 1244) | 234 | 257 |
| Iceland | | 152 |

| European Neighbourhood Countries and Russia | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| Algeria | 270 | 297 |
| Armenia | 109 | 120 |
| Azerbaijan | 220 | 242 |
| Belarus | 171 | 188 |
| Egypt | 171 | 188 |
| Georgia | 249 | 247 |
| Israel | 272 | 299 |
| Jordan | 204 | 193 |
| Lebanon | 218 | 230 |
| Libya | 141 | 155 |
| Moldova | 131 | 144 |
| Morocco | 147 | 162 |
| Russia | 303 | 333 |
| Syria | 242 | 266 |
| Tunisia | 145 | 151 |
| Ukraine | 280 | 308 |
| West Bank and Gaza Strip | 130 | 143 |