



Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

**Annual work programme of grants and public procurement
contracts for 2009 (2nd update)**

[Commission Decision C(2009)4619 of 19 June 2009]

SUMMARY

Subject: Second update of DG EMPL's 2009 annual programme of grants and public procurement contracts, serving as a financing decision

The present draft decision follows the Commission Decisions C(2008)7019¹ of 25 November 2008 and C(2009)143² of 23 January 2009 and introduces essential additions and modifications necessary for the sound implementation of DG EMPL's 2009 work programme.

The main modifications are the following:

- Inclusion by the Budgetary Authority of two new budget lines (04 03 09 and 04 04 11) for the implementation of two pilot projects; these changes have financial implications;
- Concerning the other budget lines, reallocation of amounts which became available during the implementation of the budget and redefinition of the content of certain actions in order to adjust them to the latest developments in the policies of the DG and to take into account changes in the conference programmes of the Member States holding the EU Presidency (these modifications have no financial implications, but are deemed substantial changes).

The present update covers the following budget lines:

- 04 03 03 01: Industrial relations and social dialogue
- 04 03 05: Free movement of workers, coordination of social security systems and measures for migrants, including migrants from third countries
- 04 03 09: Pilot Project - Working and living conditions of posted workers
- 04 04 01 01: Progress Programme - Employment
- 04 04 01 02: Progress Programme - Social protection and inclusion
- 04 04 01 03: Progress Programme - Working conditions
- 04 04 01 04: Progress Programme - Non discrimination and diversity
- 04 04 01 05: Progress Programme - Gender equality
- 04 04 11: Pilot project - Preventing elder abuse

The available appropriations under these budget lines will be used for:

- the award of grants (including to bodies with a *de jure* monopoly, such as the Member States holding the Presidency of the European Union, for the co-funding of conferences in the areas of the responsibilities of DG EMPL);
- public procurement;
- actions performed by joint management entrusted to international organisations;
- subdelegations to other DGs for the performance of actions of common interest; and
- the implementation of two pilot projects.

¹ Commission Decision C(2008) 7019 of 25.11.2008 approving DG EMPL's annual programme of grants and contracts, serving as financing decision for 2009.

² Commission Decision C(2009) 143 of 23.5.2009 approving the updating of the annual programme of grants and contracts of DG EMPL, serving as financing decision for 2009.

The appended sheets attached to the draft decision set out, for each budget line concerned, the essential elements of the different actions foreseen by DG EMPL for 2009 on the basis of the appropriations assigned for the promotion of initiatives in the areas "Working in Europe — Social dialogue and mobility" and "Employment, social solidarity and gender equality".

ANNEX

COMMISSION DECISIONS C(2008)7019 OF 25 NOVEMBER 2008 AND C(2009)143 OF 23 JANUARY 2009 ARE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

Budget line 04 03 03 01 – INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE is amended as follows:

Two new bullet points are inserted under point **2.1. Calls for tender:**

- Study to support the Commission Communication on Social Sectoral Dialogue
- Studies to support Social Partners' work in response to the economic crisis

A third paragraph is added to point **2.2. Use of existing framework contracts:**

'Publications in the context of Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue: specific contracts to be concluded on the basis of the DG EMPL framework contract "Publications" (VC/2007/52), concluded on 13 November 2007 for a period of 24 months, renewable once.'

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Budget line 04 03 05 – FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS, COORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS AND MEASURES FOR MIGRANTS, INCLUDING MIGRANTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES is amended as follows:

Point **2. PROCUREMENT** is replaced by the following:

'The global amount reserved for procurement is € 1 734 310.

2.1. Calls for tender

2.1.1. Organisation and co-ordination of the European Network on Free Movement of Workers within the European Union

The network will collect and monitor information on national developments linked to the free movement of workers. It will produce thematic reports and contribute to providing information and raising awareness on the issues related to the free movement of workers throughout the European Union.

The call will be published in the second quarter of 2009.

2.1.2. Service contract to assist the Audit Board

Service contract to assist the Audit Board with its task of ensuring the good functioning of the Community system for refunding health care costs between national social security institutions.

The call will be published in the second quarter of 2009.

2.1.3. Series of specific studies on some aspects of the new Regulations on the social security coordination

Up to five 5 low-value calls for tender will be launched in the second and third quarters of 2009. The studies will focus on clarifying the interpretation of the new regulations.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

2.2.1. Seminars/Events in sectors concerned with Regulation (EC) N° 883/2004

A number of smaller activities (seminars and events) will also be arranged with a view to further preparing the Institutions for the implementation of Regulation (EC) N° 883/2004 (on the coordination of social security systems) and its application. They will be held in the second half of 2009.

These activities will be organised through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings" concluded on 26 November 2008 (6 lots - VC/2008/862, VC/2008/864, VC/2008/867, VC/2008/868, VC/2008/869 and VC/2008/870), for a period of 24 months, renewable once.

2.2.2. EHIC Campaign

Extension and follow-up of the EHIC campaign with a view to raising awareness among European citizens and health care providers of the European Health Insurance Card. This phase of the campaign will focus on wider dissemination of the products (posters, press kit, information leaflet, etc.)

These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract for communication activities, concluded on 30 November 2007 (3 lots - VC/2007/34, VC/2007/673, VC/2007/674), for a period of 24 months, renewable once.

2.3. Renewals

2.3.1. Renewal of contract VC/2006/565

Third renewal of the "Service contract for the provision of technical support in the field of co-ordination of social security". The contract was concluded on 8 December 2006 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

2.3.2. Renewal of contract VC/2007/188

Second renewal of the contract "Organising training and setting up networks on the European coordination of social security schemes". The contract was concluded on 28 November 2007 for a period of 12 months, renewable twice.'

Point 3.2. Provision for reimbursement of translation costs incurred in 2009 is amended as follows:

'€ 1 165 690' is replaced by '€ 765 690'.

The SUMMARY TABLE is amended as follows:

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN €</i>
GRANTS (de jure monopolies)	200 000
PROCUREMENT	1 734 310
SUBDELEGATIONS	700 000
TRANSLATIONS	765 690
TOTAL 04 03 05	3 400 000

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A new budget line is inserted:

04 03 09 - PILOT PROJECT – WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS OF POSTED WORKERS
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AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 1 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

This appropriation is intended to fund initiatives to help explore the working and living conditions of posted workers and how the Member States, social partners and labour inspectorates work in practice.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

Grants awarded under this budgetary item will be covered by a written agreement.

1.1. Call for proposals on the Working and Living Conditions of Posted Workers

Objectives and foreseen results

The call will finance transnational projects carried out by stakeholders with practical knowledge of the working and living conditions of posted workers as well as the application and/or enforcement of national rules regarding such workers, with the objectives of:

- promoting the analysis and/or monitoring of the working and living conditions of posted workers in specified sectors or countries;
- exchanging and disseminating relevant information on national practices or cooperation initiatives designed to address problems related to the posting of workers;
- establishing best practices.

The foreseen results of this call are:

- Improved knowledge of the working and living conditions of posted workers;
- Improved conditions for the better implementation and application of Directive 96/71/EC on the posting of workers;
- Promotion of exchanges of information and experience among the stakeholders more actively involved in the monitoring or enforcement of the employment conditions of posted workers;
- Promotion of transnational cooperation among stakeholders and dissemination of best practice.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The amount envisaged for this call is EUR 350 000.

The European Community co-financing rate will be limited to a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the third quarter of 2009.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Applicants must:

- be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation;

- be a properly constituted and registered legal entity in one of the Member States. In application of Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partners organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability;
- fall within one of the following categories: social partners, public authorities, international organisations, non-profit-making organisations, research centres and institutes, universities and civil society organisations.

Activities must:

- be linked to at least one objective of the call for proposals;
- be carried out by a partnership of entities from at least two different Member States or by a European or international organisation;
- be fully carried out in the Member States.

b) Selection

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary.
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

(The verification of financial capacity will not apply to public bodies).

c) Award

The grants will be awarded following a comparative assessment of the proposals on the basis of the following criteria:

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives of this call for proposals;
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension;
- The quality of partnerships, i.e. the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the social partners/stakeholders in the action;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action;
- The arrangements to publicise the action and dissemination methods envisaged;
- The overall quality, clarity and completeness of the proposal and budget explanation.

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement is EUR 650 000.

2.1. Calls for tender

2.1.1. Economic and Social Study

The purpose of this call for tender is to examine the economic and social effects associated with the phenomenon of posting of workers in the context of cross-border service provision. The study will focus at the living and working conditions of posted workers and compare them with those of workers doing similar jobs in the host countries. To this end a large-scale study covering most Member States and focussing on sectors with a high number of posted workers (including construction, transport,

hotels, restaurants and catering, agriculture and fisheries and temporary agencies) based on both desk and field research will be conducted.
The call will be launched in the second quarter of 2009.

2.1.2. Legal Study

The purpose of this call for tender is to further look into the legal aspects and problems raised by the implementation, application and enforcement of the Directive in the Member States. It therefore plans to carry out a study, identifying questions and difficulties in the implementation and the application of the Directive as well as its enforcement in practice. Furthermore, it should identify existing practices and initiatives that have been established in this respect (e.g. cross-border cooperation between Social Partners and bilateral agreements between Member States). This study will also investigate the role of Member State authorities (labour inspectorates) in enforcing the directive and the frequency of control.

The call will be launched in the second quarter of 2009.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	
Call for proposals	350 000
PROCUREMENT	650 000
TOTAL 04 03 09	1 000 000

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Budget line 04 04 01 01 - PROGRESS – EMPLOYMENT is amended as follows:
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Point 1.1.2. Innovative projects relating to Employment Services - Innovative and trans-national projects targeting and improving the matching of labour market needs, modernisation and strengthening of labour market institutions is deleted.

Point 1.2.1.2. PRESIDENCY CONFERENCES is amended as follows:

'Four major Presidency conferences will be organised in 2009 to discuss employment-related topics, one during the Czech Presidency and three during the Swedish Presidency.

The Commission intends to co-fund these conferences, which will address the following Employment policy

- Conference during the Czech Presidency on "Flexicurity";
- Conferences during the Swedish Presidency: on "Labour Market issues", on "New Skills for New Jobs" and on "Corporate Social Responsibility".

The indicative amount is EUR 1.000.000 for the four events (EUR 250 000 each) and the maximum Community co-financing rate will be 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.'

Point 2. PROCUREMENT is amended as follows:

'EUR 10 688 230' is replaced by 'EUR 10 438.230'.

In point **2.1.3. Studies and network for "New Skills for New Jobs" initiative** Lot N° 3 is deleted.

A new point **2.1.10.** is inserted:

2.1.10. Study in order to analyse efficient activation approaches and identifying elements for regional cooperation in the Western Balkans

The aim is to meet analytical needs in addressing Employment/Decent Work issues in the context of regional cooperation on employment and social policies and in relation to the situation in candidate and potential candidate countries. The study will cover analytical needs with regard to activation policies, measures and strategies, inclusive labour markets, Public Employment Services.

The indicative timeframe for launching the procedure is the second quarter of 2009.'

A new point **2.1.11.** is inserted:

2.1.11. – Programme for Mutual Learning support for Public Employment Services

The aim is to assist in implementing a systematic, permanent and structured dialogue process among Public Employment Services on modernisation in line with the needs of Employment markets and the EES guidelines. This activity is intended to facilitate the exchange of information on PES practices and service delivery, notably with regard to the transferability of good practices. The external contractor will also support the organisation of benchmarking, thematic and peer review meetings and maintain a dissemination website.

The indicative timeframe for launching the procedure is the third quarter of 2009 (financial consequences in 2010).'

Point **3.1.6. Migration/integration employment observatory managed by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM I)** is amended as follows:

'EUR 850 000' is replaced by 'EUR 775 000'.

Point **3.1.7.** is replaced by the following:

3.1.7. International cooperation on skills: Anticipation and matching of skills needs, notably with a view to shifting to a low-carbon economy, and review of existing methods for their application as an immediate response to the crisis

The purpose of this activity is to co-finance with the ILO a Joint Management activity with the aim of creating a knowledge-sharing platform on skills, involving International Organisations, social partners and ILO members in the development of tools and methods for the anticipation and matching of skills needs, in particular for the green economy, and reviewing the methods for their application in the light of the ongoing financial crisis.

The indicative amount for this project is EUR 500 000.'

A new point **3.1.9.** is inserted:

3.1.9. Addressing European Labour market and social challenges for sustainable globalisation

The Joint Management with the ILO will enhance the EU knowledge base with a view to (I) addressing the short-term challenges of the crisis by identifying effective labour market and social protection policies, including the role of cash transfers and training, and assessing the labour market effects of stimuli, (II) addressing the preparation of

European labour markets for long-term challenges, in particular the move to a low-carbon economy, and (III) analysing the impact of different financing mechanisms and instruments on EU labour markets.

The indicative amount for this project is EUR 925 000.'

Point 3.2.1.2. **"Job Vacancy survey"(Call for proposals)** is amended as follows:

'EUR 200 000' is replaced by 'EUR 300 000'.

The **SUMMARY TABLE** is amended as follows:

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	6 430 000
Calls for proposals	5 290 000
De jure monopoly	1 140 000
PROCUREMENT	10 438 230
JOINT MANAGEMENT	4 270 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	512 650
INDIRECT CENTRALISED MANAGEMENT - Delegation to CEDEFOP	1 000 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 01	22 650 880

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Budget line 04 04 01 02 – PROGRESS – SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION is amended as follows:

In point **1.1.2. *Call for proposals for actions related to the development of pension modelling***, under Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing the second paragraph is deleted

Point **2. PROCUREMENT** is amended as follows:

'EUR 14 129 600' is replaced by 'EUR 13 629 600'.

Point **2.1.3.** is replaced by the following:

2.1.3. Study on active inclusion of migrants

The issue of the sustainability of welfare programmes in the era of globalisation and large migration flows is central to the current debate on the future of the "European social model". Against this background, there has been increasing pressure to give more prominence to the social impact of migration within EU social policy processes, in particular within the OMC for Social Protection and Social Inclusion.

The study has three main purposes:

- First, it aims to gather evidence from various EU countries to provide an overview of current trends regarding migrants' dependence on various forms of social assistance.
- Second, it is to investigate the key determinants of migrant versus native welfare dependence (age at migration, level of education, family situation and size, cohort effects

country of origin), and possibly assess their relevance in explaining social assistance dependence.

- Third, it should provide preliminary analyses (or indicate directions for further research) on the mutual interaction between migration policies and social assistance policies.

The call was published on 10 May 2008, as it was already included in the Financing Decision for 2008 (C(2008)1088 of 25 March 2008, point 2.1.2.A). The contract will be concluded in the first half of 2009, using 2009 appropriations.'

Point 2.1.6. Study on supplementary pension practices and the changes in the structure of occupational pension schemes is deleted.

Point 2.1.9. Exchanges between national administrations is deleted

A new paragraph is inserted under point **2.2.4. Eurobarometer (Poverty, Active Inclusion and Social Services)**:

'The recent financial and economic crisis calls for regular and timely monitoring of the social situation of citizens. To this end, short Eurobarometer telephone surveys are to be conducted to provide input to the analysis and reporting on how citizens are faring in the current socio-economic context. These will also cover issues relating to intergenerational solidarity. The specific contracts will be concluded on the basis of the DG COMM framework service contract for Eurobarometer surveys N° PRESS-B-1/2004-44/B1 concluded on 16 February 2006 for a period of one year, renewable three times.'

A new point **2.2.7.** is inserted:

'2.2.7. Conference on Homelessness and housing exclusion

Homelessness and housing exclusion have been chosen as the social inclusion theme for the Open Method of Coordination on Social Protection and Housing Exclusion in 2009. The 2010 Joint Report to be adopted by the Spring Council will therefore pay particular attention to this issue, which will also constitute the thematic focus of the 2009 Social Situation Report. During 2009, a number of initiatives have been launched or are under way in the field of homelessness and housing exclusion, with the support of the PROGRESS programme (four mutual learning projects, a study and the on-going work of two partner networks - FEANTSA and EUROCITIES - and of the Network of Local Authorities' Observatories). As most of these initiatives will be completed at the beginning of 2010, a high-level conference is to be arranged to present the work carried out at EU level in the field of homelessness and housing exclusion and to discuss and disseminate the policy outcome of the policy process as presented in the Joint Report for Social Protection and Social Inclusion. The conference will be held in the first half of 2010.

This activity will be organised through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings" concluded on 26 November 2008 (6 lots – VC/2008/862, VC/2008/864, VC/2008/867, VC/2008/868, VC/2008/869 and VC/2008/870) for a period of 24 months, renewable once.'

A new point **2.2.8.** is inserted:

'2.2.8. Training on exchanges of national administrators

Following evaluation of the results of the feasibility study on an exchange of personnel between national administrations under the PROGRESS programme, a set of initiatives including training sessions, exchange visits, etc. is to be launched under the DG ADMIN framework contract "EU governance" concluded on 13 December 2007 with EIPA (ADMIN/D1/PR/2006/137/lot 8/1).'

Point 3.1.1. is replaced by the following:

'3.1.1. OECD agreement on pensions

The OECD has modelled national pension systems within a common framework to allow theoretical replacement rates to be calculated for different careers and wage profiles. The OECD will provide updates and refinements of previous calculations. It is proposed to continue cooperation with the OECD and to update the national models.

The OECD will furthermore undertake additional policy analyses based on its pension models to provide an analysis of the impact of recent pension reforms on the adequacy and sustainability of retirement income systems, on the indexation of pension benefits and on issues linked to women's pension entitlements. Work on funded private pensions is included.

It is envisaged to amend the current contribution agreement with the OECD (joint 3-year EC-OECD project on "Calculating tax wedge and effective tax rates on labour", ABAC 30-CE-0036578/00-44. The addendum concerns the extension of the model to include calculations and indicators on active inclusion, with a view to developing a monitoring framework for the Commission Recommendation of 3 October 2008 on the active inclusion of people excluded from the labour market (2008/867/EC).

The estimated amount for this action is around EUR 800 000.'

The SUMMARY TABLE is amended as follows:

<i>ACTION</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	16 450 000
Calls for proposals	6 500 000
De jure monopolies	1 450 000
Grants to partners	8 500 000
PROCUREMENT	13 629 600
JOINT MANAGEMENT	1 050 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 02	31 129 600

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Budget line 04 04 01 03 – PROGRESS – WORKING CONDITIONS is amended as follows:

Point 1.1. Calls for proposals: "Restructuring, well-being at work and financial participation" is amended as follows:

'Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The amount envisaged for this call is EUR 3 098 000.

The European Community co-financing rate will be limited to a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the second quarter of 2009 and will specify two time limits for the submission of applications:

- May 2009. Indicative amount envisaged depending on the quality of the projects submitted: EUR 1 450 000
- September 2009. Indicative amount envisaged depending on the quality of the projects submitted: EUR 1 648 000'

Point **1.2.1 De jure monopoly - Presidency conferences** is amended as follows:

'Description and indicative timetable

Conferences and awareness-raising events on working conditions included in EU Presidencies' programmes for 2009.

Three conferences will be organised by the Czech and the Swedish Presidencies in 2009: one on working conditions/labour law (Swedish Presidency) and two on subjects concerning health and safety at work (Czech and Swedish Presidencies).

The indicative amount is EUR 600 000 for these events (EUR 200 000 for the conference on labour law; EUR 200 000 for each of the conferences on health and safety), and the maximum Community co-financing rate is 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.'

Point **2. Procurement** is amended as follows:

'EUR 6 914 800' is replaced by 'EUR 5 814 800'.

Point **2.1.8. Sectoral Councils on jobs and qualification** is deleted.

A new point **3.4.** is inserted:

'3.4. Committee of experts on posting of workers

Directive 96/71/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 1996 concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services, in particular its Article 4, imposes clear obligations as regards cooperation between national administrations, and makes it the responsibility of the Member States to create the necessary conditions for such cooperation. This Directive furthermore sets out a clear obligation for the Member States to take the appropriate measures to make the information on the terms and conditions of employment generally available.

The intention to set up a high-level expert group on the posting of workers was already announced in the Commission Communication of 13 June 2007 on Posting of workers. This high-level group has been established meanwhile.

In its first follow-up action, the Commission Recommendation of 4 April 2008 on enhanced administrative cooperation in the context of the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services, the Commission indicated that Member States should participate actively in a systematic and formal process for the identification and exchange of good practices in the field of the posting of workers through any cooperation fora established by the Commission to that end, such as the envisaged High-Level Committee.

The Council Conclusions of 9 June 2008 which endorsed the main parts of the Recommendation invited the Commission to institutionalise the informal group on the

posting of workers by setting up a committee of experts. This committee has been established and first met on 25 February 2009.

An amount of EUR 102 000 is reserved for this activity. The Commission's financial contribution will be limited to reimbursing travel and, where appropriate, subsistence expenses under the current rules for the reimbursement of external experts' expenses.'

The **SUMMARY TABLE** is amended as follows:

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	4 023 000
Call for proposals	3 098 000
De jure monopoly	600 000
De facto monopolies	325 000
PROCUREMENT	5 814 800
JOINT MANAGEMENT	275 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	150 000
EXCHANGE OF NATIONAL INSPECTORS	80 000
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON POSTING OF WORKERS	102 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 03	10 444 800

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Budget line 04 04 01 04 - PROGRESS - ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND DIVERSITY is amended as follows:

Point **2.1.5** is replaced by the following:

'2.1.5. Study on the access to justice in discrimination cases

This study should inform the Commission about the rules in force in the national legal systems to ensure access to justice for victims of discrimination on the six grounds recognised by Article 13 of the EC Treaty, such as rules on time limits, on evidence, on representation, on compensation and sanctions, on the costs and length of proceedings, on legal aid, on the availability and use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and on judicial review.

Indicative timeframe: second quarter of 2009

Remark: This call will be partly financed by the budget line 04 04 01 05 (50%).'

A new point **2.2.4.** is inserted:

'2.2.4. EU-US workshop on persons with disabilities and employment

Preparing and carrying out of a Workshop in Brussels bringing together experts from the EU and the USA. Production of a report and dissemination of results.

This action will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings" concluded on 26 November 2008 (6 lots – VC/2008/862, VC/2008/864, VC/2008/867, VC/2008/868, VC/2008/869 and VC/2008/870) for a period of 24 months, renewable once and the DG EMPL framework contract for communication activities concluded on 30 November 2007 (3

lots – VC/2007/34, VC/2007/673 and VC/2007/674) for a period of 24 months, renewable once.'

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Budget line 04 04 01 05 - PROGRESS – GENDER EQUALITY is amended as follows:

A new point **2.1.3** is inserted:

'2.1.3. Study on the access to justice in discrimination cases

This study should inform the Commission about the rules in force in the national legal systems to ensure access to justice for victims of discrimination on the six grounds recognized by Article 13 of the EC-Treaty, such as: rules on time limits, on evidence, on representation, on compensation and sanctions, on the costs and length of proceedings, on legal aid, on the availability and use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and on judicial review.

Indicative timeframe: second quarter of 2009

Remark: This call will be partly financed by the budget line 04 04 01 04 (50%).

Point 3 "**OTHER INTERVENTIONS - Subdelegations**" is amended as follows:

'EUR 1 300 000' is replaced by 'EUR 1 800 000'.

The **SUMMARY TABLE** is amended as follows:

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	1 500 000
De jure monopoly	600 000
Grants to partners	900 000
PROCUREMENT	8 977 760
SUBDELEGATIONS	1 800 000
TOTAL 04 04 01 05	12 277 760

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A new budget line is inserted:

04 04 11 - PILOT PROJECT: PREVENTING ELDER ABUSE
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LEGAL BASIS

Pilot Project within the meaning of Article 49 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities, as last amended by Regulation N° 1525/2007 of 17 December 2007.

This appropriation is intended to fund initiatives to help uncover the extent of abuse of older people in the European Union as a follow-up to the European Parliament resolution of 21 February 2008 on the demographic future of Europe and to the conference organised by the Commission on 17 March 2008 on the topic of elder abuse.

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 1 000 000

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

GRANTS

Grants awarded under this budgetary item will be covered by a written agreement.

Call for proposals - "Pilot Project on Elder Abuse 2009"

Objectives and foreseen results

The aim of the call for proposals is to support two initiatives to be developed by strong partnerships comprising in particular researchers and civil society organisations. The purpose of the grant is to give these partnerships an opportunity to assess the scale of elder abuse, whether physical, psychological and financial, to gain a better understanding of the causes of elder abuse, and to measure the effectiveness of policy responses in the Member States.

One project will be supported in each of the following two areas:

- collecting data on the prevalence of elder abuse across the European Union, including risk and protective factors,
- mapping existing policy approaches and policy frameworks in the European Union, to identify good practices and present a reference framework comprising measures and instruments needed for the effective prevention of elder abuse.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The amount envisaged for this call is EUR 1 000 000.

The co-financing rate will be limited to a maximum of 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the first half of 2009.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Applicants must:

- be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation
- have a legally established non-profit status
- be a properly constituted and registered legal entity in a Member State. In application of Article 114 of Financial Regulation, social partners' organisations without legal personality are also eligible provided their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability.

b) Selection

Only organisations with the necessary financial and operational capacity may be awarded a grant.

- Financial capacity to carry out the action: the applicant must have access to solid and adequate funding to maintain its activities for the period of the action and to help finance it as necessary.
- Operational capacity to complete the proposed action: the applicant must have the operational resources (technical, management) and the professional skills and qualifications needed to successfully complete the proposed action, as well as the ability to implement it. The applicant must have a strong track record of competence and experience in the field and in particular in the type of action proposed.

(The verification of financial capacity will not apply to public bodies).

c) Award

The grants will be awarded following a comparative assessment of the proposals on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance to the objective of the call for proposals
- Overall quality of the proposal
- EU-wide coverage of the proposal
- Relevance of the proposal for the EU policy debate
- Sound cost-effectiveness ratio
- The overall quality, clarity and completeness of the proposal and budget explanation.