



Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Annual work programme of grants and contracts for 2010

[Commission Decision C(2009)9898 of 11 December 2009]

SUMMARY

DG EMPL's 2010 annual programme of grants and contracts serving as a financing decision

The present draft decision constitutes the first part of DG EMPL's annual programme of grants and contracts serving as a financing decision for 2010. This draft decision sets out the essential elements of the actions that will be financed by the 2010 budget. The aim of this draft decision is to allow the launch of selection procedures as from the end of 2009 so that the individual decisions to award grants or contracts can be taken as from the beginning of 2010, subject to the adoption of the 2010 budget.

This draft decision covers the first part of the budget lines managed by DG EMPL by direct management. A supplementary financing decision will be put forward for the other budget lines managed by the DG, namely those which have been grouped together under the programme PROGRESS.

The present draft decision covers the following budget lines:

- 04 03 03 01: Industrial relations and social dialogue
- 04 03 03 02: Information and training measures for workers' organisations
- 04 03 03 03: Information, consultation and participation of representatives of undertakings
- 04 03 04: EURES (European Employment Services)
- 04 03 05: Free movement of workers, coordination of social security systems and measures for migrants, including migrants from third countries
- 04 03 07: Analysis of and studies on the social situation, demographics and the family
- 04 04 02 01: European Institute for Gender Equality – Subsidy under Titles 1 and 2
- 04 04 02 02: European Institute for Gender Equality – Subsidy under Title 3
- 04 04 03 01: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions – Subsidy under Titles 1 and 2
- 04 04 03 02: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions – Subsidy under Title 3
- 04 04 04 02: European Agency for Safety and Health at Work – Subsidy under Titles 1 and 2
- 04 04 04 03: European Agency for Safety and Health at Work – Subsidy under Title 3

The available appropriations under the above budget lines will be used, after the adoption of the budget by the Budgetary Authority, 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 responsibility of DG EMPL);
- public procurement;
- actions performed by joint management entrusted to international organisations; and
- subdelegations to other DGs for the performance of actions of common interest.

The annex to the draft decision sets out, for each budget line concerned, the essential elements of the different actions foreseen by DG EMPL for 2010 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

**SUMMARY TABLE - OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2010 WITH THE
CORRESPONDING AMONTS**

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	93 550 593
Calls for proposals	25 666 000
De jure monopoly	950 000
De facto monopoly	13 184 000
Grants to partners	14 000 000
Grants to agencies	39 750 593
PROCUREMENT	13 231 320
JOINT MANAGEMENT	600 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	200 000
OTHER INTERVENTIONS	200 000
TOTAL	107 781 913

04 03 03 01 - INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

LEGAL BASIS

The appropriations under this item are intended to finance actions taken by the Commission by virtue of the powers specifically conferred on it by Article 138 of the EC Treaty.

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 16 000 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

The objectives of this budget heading are the following:

- Support European social dialogue at the cross-industry and sectoral levels
- Improve expertise in the field of industrial relations
- Improve EU-level expertise in the employment and industrial relations dimensions of restructuring

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

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

1.1. Call for proposals - Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue

Objectives and foreseen results

The call for proposals will finance a large variety of measures, including conferences, seminars, round tables, negotiations, studies, surveys, publications, monitoring exercises, training measures, training tools, the setting up of networks and the development and exchange of best practice.

The call will also cover logistical support for social dialogue negotiation meetings (hire of meeting rooms and interpretation).

The foreseen results are the following:

- Development of European social dialogue at the sectoral and cross-sectoral levels
- Increased awareness of European social dialogue and improved capacity to participate in it
- Improved preparation, monitoring, follow-up and/or implementation of the joint texts agreed at the sectoral and cross-sectoral levels
- Improved expertise in industrial relations
- Promotion of exchange of information and experience among the parties actively involved in industrial relations
- Improved anticipation, preparation and management of change

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

Indicative amount foreseen depending on the quality of proposals submitted: EUR 14 150 000.

In general, this call for proposals will support actions to which the applicants must contribute at least with 20% of the eligible cost of the action. Contributions in kind will not be accepted. However, under the sub-programme "Support for European social dialogue", actions involving negotiations in accordance with Article 138 of the Treaty, meetings to prepare for negotiations, or joint social partner actions relating to the implementation of the results of European social dialogue negotiations may be financed up to 95% of the total eligible costs. Social dialogue meetings organised by the social partners themselves can also be financed up to a rate of 95%.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in January 2010 and will foresee two deadlines for the submission of applications (subject to the detailed conditions announced in the call):

- March 2010. Indicative amount foreseen depending on the quality of the proposals submitted: EUR 6 050 000
- September 2010. Indicative amount foreseen depending on the quality of the proposals submitted: EUR 8 100 000.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be properly constituted and registered legal persons. In application of Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partner 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; organisations linked to industrial relations or restructuring; public authorities; international organisations active in the fields of social dialogue, industrial relations and /or restructuring;
- Have their registered offices in one of the EU Member States¹;
- Not be in one of the situations referred to in Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation.

To be eligible, actions must:

- Be linked to at least one objective of the budget heading;
- Have active partners from several different Member States in the case of proposals which are not submitted by a European or international organisation;
- Comply with the maximum percentage of European Community co-financing;
- Be fully carried out in the Member States of the European Union or the candidate countries²;
- Have the active support of a European social partner organisation, if they are submitted under the sub-programme "Support for European social dialogue";

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

c) Award

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives and priorities of the budget heading.
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension.

¹ In derogation from this requirement, international organisations, such as UN agencies, active in the fields of social dialogue, industrial relations and/or restructuring with their registered headquarters outside the EU Member States are also eligible.

² In derogation from this requirement, international organisations, such as UN agencies, active in the fields of social dialogue, industrial relations and/or restructuring can carry out activities also at the place of their registered office.

- The quality of partnerships, including the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the social partners/stakeholders in the action.
- The extent to which the action contributes to the priorities, activities or results of European social dialogue / the debate on industrial relations / expertise in the field of restructuring.
- The added value i.e. the lasting impact and/or multiplier effect of the action.
- The cost-effectiveness of the action.
- The arrangements to publicise the action and disseminate the results.
- The overall quality, clarity and completeness of the proposal and budget explanation.

1.2. Grants to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly

According to Article 168.1.c) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly. The individual award decisions substantiating the monopoly situation will be adopted at a later stage.

1.2.1. De jure monopolies – Presidency events

These events, highly political in nature and needing representation at the highest level both from national Authorities and European representatives, are to be organised exclusively by the Member State holding the Presidency. Given the unique role of the Presidency in the framework of Community activities, the Member State responsible for the organisation of the event is considered as a monopoly.

The Commission intends to co-fund in 2010 one conference organised by the Belgian Presidency (2nd semester 2010) on the theme '*Le dialogue social européen et la réforme économique en Europe*'.

The co-funding will represent maximum 80% of the eligible costs for an indicative amount of EUR 250 000.

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 1 600 000.

2.1. Calls for tender

2.1.1. Statistical data handling and data quality control for industrial relations indicators

The aim is to assist the Commission and the Chief Editor of the "Industrial Relations in Europe 2010" report in assuring the quality and consistency of all data, indicators, graphs and tables to be included in the final publication.

It is envisaged to launch the procedure in January 2010.

2.1.2. Study on the feasibility of developing and collecting indicators on the quality of industrial relations

Policymakers in Europe lack comparative data that allow for consistent measurement of the quality of industrial relations and its development. The study will identify challenges and suggest solutions, including the development of indicators and survey modules.

It is envisaged to launch of the procedure in February 2010.

2.1.3. *Qualitative and quantitative analysis in support of sectoral social dialogue*

It is envisaged to launch of the procedure in the first quarter of 2010.

2.2. **Use of existing framework contracts**

2.2.1. *Social dialogue negotiation meetings and conferences*

These activities will be organised through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract 'Meetings' concluded on 26 November 2008 (7 lots – VC/2008/63, 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. *Development of information and communication tools*

These actions 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 and VC/2007/674), for a period of 24 months, renewable once).

2.2.3. *Publications in the context of Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue.*

These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract 'Publications' (VC/2007/52) concluded on 13 November 2007 for a period of 24 months, renewable once.

2.2.4. *Evaluation and evaluation related services, including support for Impact Assessment Activities*

These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL multiple framework contract 'Evaluation and Impact Assessment activities' concluded on 21 April 2009 (5 lots – VC/2009/35 to VC/2009/56) for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

2.2.5. *Development of an online meeting registration tool to be used namely for the social dialogue committee meetings*

This activity will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DIGIT DI/05710 framework contract concluded on 6 October 2006 for a period of 24 months, renewable twice.

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	14 400 000
Calls for proposals	14 150 000
De jure monopolies	250 000
PROCUREMENT	1 600 000
TOTAL 04 03 03 01	16 000 000

04 03 03 02 - INFORMATION AND TRAINING MEASURES FOR WORKERS' ORGANISATIONS

LEGAL BASIS

The appropriations under this item are intended to finance actions taken by the Commission by virtue of the powers specifically conferred to it by Article 138 of the EC Treaty.

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 16 400 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR:

The line is intended to cover expenditure on information and training measures for workers' organisations, including representatives of workers' organisations in the candidate countries, deriving from the implementation of Community action on the social dimension of the internal market, including gender equality issues, and monetary union. These measures should help workers' organisations to contribute to the goals of the Lisbon Strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

By application of Article 138 of the EC Treaty, the Commission has the obligation to take any relevant measure to facilitate European social dialogue by ensuring balanced support for the parties.

The Commission has already stressed on different occasions the crucial role of social partners as a key to better governance of the enlarged Union and a driving force for economic and social reform³, as they are increasingly called upon to contribute to the social and economic objectives of the European Union, as best reflected by the Lisbon Strategy.

The Commission, in its Communication *"Partnership for change in an enlarged Europe - Enhancing the contribution of European social dialogue"* (COM(2004)557 final), concluded that there has been in recent years a qualitative shift in the nature of the social dialogue towards greater autonomy, reflected by the increasing adoption by the social partners of 'new generation' texts, in which they undertake certain commitments or make recommendations to their national members, and seek to actively follow-up the text at the national level. This evolution of the social dialogue is consistent with the Commission's more general efforts to improve European governance, as well as with the call on the social partners to submit a common work programme for growth and employment and to be an active part in attaining the Lisbon objectives.

The enlargement of the EU coincided with these important qualitative developments within the European social dialogue, making even more crucial a proactive approach of the question of technical capacity and awareness-raising of the social partners.

The Commission's objective is, therefore, to take all necessary measures in order to contribute to building and further strengthening of the necessary capacity of involved stakeholders through training and research, as well as in awareness-raising through information, taking into account the supplementary added-value that represents the European dimension of this activity.

³ Communication "The European social dialogue, a force for innovation and change" (COM(2002)341 final).

1. GRANTS

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

1.1. Call for proposals - Information and training measures for workers' organisation

Objectives and foreseen results

The commitment appropriations are intended to cover expenditure on information and training measures for workers' organisations, including representatives of workers' organisations in the candidate countries, deriving from the implementation of Community action on the social dimension of the internal market, including gender equality issues, and monetary union. These measures should help workers' organisations to contribute to the goals of the Lisbon Strategy.

Foreseen results are improved skills for workers' representatives for European social dialogue, better understanding of issues discussed through European social dialogue, sharing of ideas/experience on European social dialogue as well as improving the capacity of workers' organisations.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co financing

The indicative amount is EUR 3 216 000. The Community grant will not exceed 90% of the total eligible costs of the action.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the first quarter of 2010.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation;
- Be social partner organisations representing workers at European, national or regional level;
- Be properly constituted and registered legal persons. In application of article 114 of the Financial Regulation, workers' 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;
- Have their registered office in one of the Member States of the European Union;

To be eligible, actions must:

- Be linked to the objectives of the budget heading;
- Comply with the European Community co-financing percentage of maximum 90%;
- Be fully carried out in the Member States of the European Union or the candidate countries;

National capacity-building activities which could be funded under the European Social Fund (Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006 on the European Social Fund, Article 5(3) §2⁴) are not eligible.

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. (The verification of the financial capacity will not be applied to public bodies).
- 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.

c) Award

Proposals which fulfil the eligibility and selection criteria indicated above will be assessed according to the following award criteria:

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives and priorities of the budget heading.
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension.
- The quality of partnerships, including the degree of involvement and commitment at the application stage of the social partners/stakeholders in the action.
- The extent to which the action contributes to the priorities, activities or results of European Social Dialogue.
- The added value, i.e. the lasting impact and/or multiplier effect of the action.
- The cost-effectiveness of the action.
- The arrangements to publicise the action and disseminate the results.
- The overall quality, clarity and completeness of the proposal and budget explanation.

1.2. Grants to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly

According to Article 168.1.c) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly. The individual award decisions substantiating the monopoly situation will be adopted at a later stage.

⁴

"Under the Convergence objective, an appropriate amount of ESF resources shall be allocated to capacity-building, which shall include training, networking measures, strengthening the social dialogue and activities jointly undertaken by the social partners, in particular as regards adaptability of workers and enterprises referred to in Article 3(1)(a)." (Scope).

1.2.1. *De facto monopolies*

Support to the annual work programme of specialised Institutes

In application of Article 2 of the Commission Decision C(2005)4628 of 1 December 2005 approving the updating of DG EMPL's annual programme of grants and contracts and serving as a financing decision for 2006, the Commission concluded, in February 2006, a four-year framework partnership agreement with two specific trade union institutes with a view to establishing a long term cooperation. These institutes have been established to facilitate capacity-building through training and research at European level, as well as to improve the degree of involvement of workers' representatives in European governance.

The Commission, taking duly into account the important contribution of these institutes in the field of trade union training, information and research, as well as the positive experience of previous cooperation with them, has the intention to conclude with each one of them a new four-year framework partnership agreement with a view to continuing the long term cooperation, as provided for in article 163 and according to the rules and conditions of article 164 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation.

These institutes are the following:

- 1.2.1.1. the **European Trade Union Institute (ETUI)**, which provides workers' organisations with research and scientific support as well as information, training in European matters of strategic importance for the trade unions. This institute is linked to the *European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)*;
- 1.2.1.2. the **European Centre for Workers' Questions (EZA)**, which provides a European dimension trade union education for European *Christian* workers' organisations.

The presence of more than one entity in this field of activity and the diversified philosophical and political orientation of ETUI and EZA offer a supplementary assurance of pluralism and a larger choice to workers' organisations.

The position of these institutes is unique, since they are specialised research/training institutes responding to the necessary representativity criteria and covering needs at a European scale, including the candidate countries (ETUI is linked to the ETUC which has member organisations in 36 and EZA in 19 European countries):

The representativity of social partners, both at national and European level, is regularly checked and confirmed on the basis of external studies. The 1999 "Report on the representativeness of European social partner organisations" and the 2004 "Monographs on the situation of social partners in the acceding and candidate countries, intersectoral level" (both coordinated by the *Institut des Sciences du Travail, of Université Catholique de Louvain*, Belgium, at the request of DG EMPL) confirmed the representativity of the ETUC at the European level. This fact was twice reflected in the European Commission's social dialogue communications of 2002 and 2004, where ETUC is included as the only general cross-industry workers' organisation consulted under Article 138 of the EC Treaty. EZA also has a high level of representativity in the field of workers' training, as its work is delivered through 56 national training centres (nine of which have a candidate or observer status) and with the cooperation of some important Christian workers' organisations at the

European level (among others, the *European Christian Workers Movement* and *Jeunesse Ouvrière Chrétienne – Europe*).

With reference to the above, the ETUI and EZA cover all representative unions of the European labour movement. For this reason, ETUI and EZA are to be considered as bodies in a de facto monopoly situation, within the sense of article 168(1)(c) of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, and are granted direct support, in accordance with article 110(1) of the Financial Regulation.

The framework partnership agreements are to be signed in November 2009, in order to take effect as from 1 January 2010.

The indicative amount of the operating grants to be awarded under the framework partnership agreements is estimated at EUR 13 200 000 per year. The new framework partnership agreements will respect the principle of gradual decrease of operating grants.

On the basis of the new framework partnership agreements mentioned above, the annual work programme of the two specific trade union institutes will be supported. The specific operating grant agreements will be signed in the first half of 2010 and will cover the period 1/4/2010-31/3/2011.

For 2010, a grant of EUR 10 094 000, representing a maximum of 86,5% of the total eligible costs of the work programme, will be awarded to ETUI, and a grant of EUR 3 090 000, representing a maximum of 83% of the total eligible costs of the work programme, will be awarded to EZA. In both cases, the co-financing rate has been decreased by 1% compared to the specific operating grant agreements signed for the period 1/4/2009-31/3/2010.

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	16 400 000
Calls for proposals	3 216 000
De facto monopolies	13 184 000
TOTAL 04 03 03 02	16 400 000

04 03 03 03 - INFORMATION, CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF UNDERTAKINGS

LEGAL BASIS

Specific competences of the Commission directly attributed by the EC Treaty, and in particular Article 138 thereof.

In this context, the following in particular are concerned:

- Directive 2009/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 on the establishment of a European Works Council or a procedure in Community-scale undertakings and Community-scale groups of undertakings for the purposes of informing and consulting employees (recast) (OJ L 122 of 16.05.2009, p. 28) as well as the directives that will be repealed in 2011: Council Directive 94/45/EC of 22 September 1994 on the establishment of a European Works Council or a procedure in Community-scale undertakings and Community-scale groups of undertakings for the purposes of informing and consulting employees (OJ L 254 of 30.09.1994, p. 64) and Council Directive 97/74/EC of 15 December 1997 extending to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Directive 94/45/EC on the establishment of a European Works Council or a procedure in Community-scale undertakings and Community-scale groups of undertakings for the purposes of informing and consulting employees (OJ L 10 of 16.01.1998, p. 22);
- Council Directive 2001/86/EC of 8 October 2001 supplementing the Statute for a European company with regard to the involvement of employees (OJ L 294 of 10.11.2001, p. 22);
- Directive 2002/14/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2002 establishing a general framework for informing and consulting employees in the European Community (OJ L 80 of 23.03.2002, p. 29);
- Council Directive 2003/72/EC of 22 July 2003 supplementing the Statute for a European Cooperative Society with regard to the involvement of employees (OJ L 207 of 18.08.2003, p. 25);
- Article 16 of Directive 2005/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2005 on cross-border mergers of limited liability companies (OJ L 310 of 25.11.2005, p. 1).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 7 300 000.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

Objectives

- Strengthen transnational cooperation between employees' and employers' representatives as regards information, consultation and participation within undertakings operating in several Member States. The purpose of such cooperation is to ensure that employees are adequately informed and consulted within an undertaking when decisions which affect them are taken in a Member State other than the one in which they work.
- Familiarise representatives of undertakings with employee participation procedures within European companies, European cooperative societies and limited liability companies resulting from cross-border mergers within the meaning of Article 16 of Directive 2005/56/EC, including improving awareness of the participation of employees' representatives in their decision-making bodies.

- Enable the social partners to prepare for exercising their rights and duties as regards information, consultation and participation within undertakings operating in several Member States, particularly within the context of their European Works Councils.
- Familiarise all those involved in the undertaking with transnational business agreements and strengthen cooperation between them within the Community framework.
- Support the development of all those involved in the undertaking in responsibly managing restructuring and encourage proactive change management practices.

Priorities for 2010

- Promote exchange of information and experience with a view to setting up employee information, consultation and participation structures within European companies, European cooperative societies and limited liability companies resulting from cross-border mergers within the meaning of Article 16 of Directive 2005/56/EC;
- Promote the exchange of information and good practice in order to create conditions favourable to setting up information and consultation structures within undertakings as defined in Directive 2002/14/EC;
- Promote the setting up of new European Works Councils and improve information and consultation processes in Community-scale undertakings and Community-scale groups of undertakings;
- Promote transnational cooperation in respect of information and consultation, in particular targeting representatives from the new Member States and candidate countries;
- Produce reports on experience relating to the establishment of European Works Councils and the functioning and effectiveness of information provision and consultation within them;
- Produce reports on experience relating to the establishment of bodies representing and negotiating on behalf of employees within European companies, European cooperative societies and limited liability companies resulting from cross-border mergers;
- Promote the exchange of information and experience in order to create conditions favourable to setting up transnational business agreements; as well as to promote measures to familiarise all those represented within the company with transnational business agreements and to strengthen their cooperation within the Community framework;
- Promote innovative actions relating to the management of information, consultation and participation at company level, in order to encourage anticipation of change and prevent and resolve disputes in the context of corporate restructuring, mergers, takeovers and relocation of undertakings and groups of undertakings operating in several Member States;
- Promote actions to encourage better anticipation, preparation and management of change and restructuring.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

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

Call for proposals: *Information, Consultation and Participation of Representatives of Undertakings*

Objectives and foreseen results

Three categories of projects will be supported in the context of this call for proposals:

- Transnational cooperation projects having the aim of promoting the exchange of information and experience as regards information, consultation and participation within undertakings and groups of undertakings, as well as the negotiation of transnational business agreements.
- Information and observation points established by the European social partners with the aim of informing and assisting representatives of the social partners and undertakings in setting up projects or information, consultation and participation structures at transnational level and promoting relations with the European institutions.
- Restructuring projects having the aim of promoting socially responsible management of restructuring, in particular by improving anticipation of and preparation for change.

These projects may consist of:

For transnational cooperation projects:

- conferences, seminars, short training courses and exchange of information and of good practices involving employees' and/or employers' representatives;
- analysis papers on employee and employer representation structures and social dialogue within the undertaking in the transnational context;
- websites, publications, newsletters and others means of disseminating information.

For information and observation point projects:

Helpdesk and assistance structures relating to the preparation of transnational cooperation projects, to be submitted by employees' and/or employers' representatives ; the activities of such structures may include studies, reports and databases related to information, consultation and participation of employees, as well as websites, publications, newsletters and other means of disseminating information.

For restructuring projects:

- conferences, seminars, exchange of information and of good practices involving employees' and/or employers' representatives;
- analysis papers on adapting to change and the roles of the different participants involved;
- preparing and setting up partnerships between the main stakeholders involved in managing change and restructuring;
- websites, publications, newsletters and others means of disseminating information.

The foreseen results include:

- training for negotiators and representatives working with information, consultation and participation bodies, as well as training on the different aspects of transnational business agreements;
- coordination between employees' and employers' representatives;

- dissemination of information and best practice;
- participation of representatives from the new Member States and candidate countries.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

The indicative amount for 2010 is EUR 7 300 000. The grant may not exceed 80% of the eligible costs of the operation.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be published in January 2010. Two deadlines are planned, one in the first half of the year (9 April 2010) and one in the second half (3 September 2010). The detailed conditions for the submission will be announced in the call. The approximate amounts are EUR 3 200 000 and EUR 4 100 000 respectively.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Eligibility of the applicants

To be eligible applicants must fulfil the following conditions:

- Be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation;
- Be a properly constituted and registered legal person, having their registered office in one of the Member States of the European Union. Pursuant to Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partner organisations without legal personality under the applicable national law are also eligible provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability. A project applicant cannot be an individual;
- Be representatives of employees or employers from the Member States or, exceptionally, technical bodies or commercial companies expressly mandated by one or more eligible applicants. For commercial companies, the aim of the project must be non-commercial in nature and the project must not create a profit for the beneficiary of the grant;
- Have their head office in one of the Member States of the European Union.

Eligibility of the actions

To be eligible, actions must:

- Be linked to at least one objective of the budget heading;
- Be fully carried out in the Member States of the European Union or in the candidate countries;
- Comply with the maximum percentage of European Community co financing of 80%.

Eligibility of the participants in actions

Participants must be employees' or employers' representatives from the Member States and candidate countries, or experts appointed by the social partners.

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. (The verification of the financial capacity will not be applied to public bodies).
- 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.

c) Award

- The extent to which the action meets the objectives of the budget heading and the priority objectives;
- The extent to which the expected results add value to the existing situation or to results already obtained in the past through transnational projects supported under this budget heading;
- The extent to which the project concerns innovative measures or new subjects in relation to information, consultation and participation of representatives of undertakings;
- The extent to which the action promotes the joint participation of employers and employees;
- The extent to which the action has a genuine transnational dimension;
- The extent to which employees' and/or employers' representatives from new Member States or candidate countries are actively involved in the action;
- The cost-effectiveness of the action;
- The overall quality, clarity and comprehensiveness of the proposal, including budgetary aspects and methods of disseminating results and arrangements related to publicising Community funding.

04 03 04 - EURES (EUROPEAN EMPLOYMENT SERVICES)

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 19 100 000 + EUR 481 320 (EFTA/EEA contribution) = EUR 19 581 320

LEGAL BASIS

- Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 of the Council of 15 October 1968 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community (OJ L 257 of 19.10.1968, p. 2), as last amended by Directive 2004/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 158 of 30.4.2004, p. 77).
- Council Regulation (EEC) No 2434/92 of 27 July 1992 amending Part II of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community (OJ L 245 du 26.8.1992, p. 1).
- Commission Decision No 2003/8/EC of 23 December 2002 implementing Council Regulation (EEC) N° 1612/68 as regards the clearance of vacancies and applications for employment.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

This appropriation is intended, for completion of the internal market and implementation of the European employment strategy, to cover the implementation and operation of the EURES network.

This network is aimed at developing cooperation between the Commission and the Member States, and in particular their employment services, with a view to:

- the provision of placement, advice and information services for workers as regards employment in another Member State and for employers wishing to recruit in another Member State,
- the exchange of job vacancies and applications at Community level and across borders,
- the exchange of information between Member States concerning labour-market trends and living and working conditions.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

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

1.1. Calls for proposals for the establishment of framework partnerships agreements with EURES – European Employment Services

Objectives and foreseen results

The EURES guidelines 2010-2013 will be adopted by the Commission in December 2009 following the opinion of the EURES High Level Strategy Group. They aim at contributing to the development of European labour markets open and accessible to all, improving the quality and transparency of the trans-national, interregional and cross-border labour market information, and strengthening co-operation on these matters. The Guidelines establish the following priorities for 2010–2013, as a basis for the identification of eligible activities:

- (1) Improving access to EURES

- (2) Ensuring services to employers
- (3) Providing services to jobseekers, job changers and the unemployed
- (4) Networking with other stakeholders
- (5) Functioning of the network
- (6) Implementing cross border activities

Justification

In order to comply with the above mentioned objectives, the Commission will publish in 2010 a call for proposals with a view to selecting organisations to work with the Commission and receive Community support on a stable and regular basis for the period 2010-2013. Such support will be given through the conclusion of framework partnership agreements aimed at establishing long-term cooperation with the Commission.

The specific grant agreements, based upon the framework partnership agreements, will subsequently be concluded on an annual basis. The Commission will invite proposals for actions in line with EU policy objectives and the partners will directly submit a proposal to the Commission. Projects supported are expected to implement activities to achieve the objectives of EURES guidelines for the period 2010-2013.

Indicative timetable

The call for proposals will be launched in the first quarter of 2010.

The partnership agreements will be signed in 2010 for a period of 3 years.

The specific grant agreements will be signed in the second quarter of 2010.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

A total amount of EUR 14 000 000 and a maximum Community co-financing rate of 95% of the total eligible costs of the actions are envisaged for the specific grant agreements in 2010.

The total budget for the three years period should be around EUR 42 000 000.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

Applicants who are not public organisations must be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation.

Eligibility of the applicants

The basic act for EURES states that (article 3 of Commission Decision 2003/8/EC):

"EURES shall comprise the following categories:

- the EURES members, which shall be the specialist services appointed by the Member States in accordance with Article 13(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68, and the European Coordination Office, in accordance with Articles 21, 22 and 23 of that Regulation; and
- the EURES partners, as provided for in Article 17(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68; namely:
- regional employment services of the Member States;

- *employment services responsible for border regions;*
- *specialised employment services that have been notified to the Commission in accordance with Article 17(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68."*

The eligible applicants are the Public Employment Services (PES) from the 27 EU Member States and the other EFTA/EEA participating countries. The PES of the EU/EEA countries are listed in the table below:

Austria	AMS – Arbeitsmarktservice Österreich
Belgium	-Le FOREM – Office Communautaire et régional de la formation professionnelle et de l'emploi - VDAB – Vlaamse Dienst voor Arbeidsbemiddeling en Beroepsopleiding - ACTIRIS – Brussels Employment Office
Bulgaria	National Employment Agency (BG)
Cyprus	Department of Labour
Czech Republic	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – Employment Services Administration
Denmark	AMS – Arbejdsmarkedsstyrelsen
Estonia	Labour Market Board
Finland	Työministerio (Ministry of Labour)
France	ANPE - Agence nationale pour l'emploi (to become France – Emploi)
Germany	BA/ZAV Bundesagentur für Arbeit/Zentrale Auslands- und Fachvermittlung
Greece	OAED – Ministère du Travail et de Sécurité Sociale
Hungary	Ministry of Employment and Labour, National Employment Office
Iceland	VMTS – Vinnusmalastofnun (Directorate of Labour)
Ireland	FAS – Training and Employment Authority
Italy	Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali
Latvia	State Employment Agency
Liechtenstein	Office of Economy – Department Work
Lithuania	Lithuanian Labour Exchange

Luxemburg	ADEM - Administration de l'Emploi
Malta	Employment & Training Corporation
Netherlands	CWI – Centrale organisatie Werk en Inkomen
Norway	NAV - the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration
Poland	Ministry of Economy and Labour – Labour Market Department
Portugal	IEFP – Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional
Romania	(NAEVT) National Agency for Employment and Vocational Training (RO)
Slovak Republic	Ústredie prace, socialnych veci a rodiny – Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family
Slovenia	Employment Service of Slovenia
Spain	INEM – Instituto Nacional de Empleo
Sweden	AMS – Arbetsmarknadsstyrelsen
United Kingdom	Job Centre Plus

The following social partners organisations at European level:

2.a) For the trade unions:

- ETUC – European Trade Union Confederation
- EUROCADRES

2.b) For the employers' organisations:

- BUSINESSEUROPE - (UNICE - Union of industrial and employers' co-operations of Europe)
- UEAPME - European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
- European Centre of Enterprises with Public Participation and of Enterprises of General Economic Interest (CEEP).

Cross-border organisations which fulfil the following requirements:

- Comprise the Public Employment Services of all the regions involved, together with trade-unions and employer organisations, as proposed by the EURES members. Other organisations can as well be partners, in particular regional and local authorities or associations of these; organisations dealing with vocational training, universities and institutes of higher education and other relevant actors active on the cross border labour market. All partners must be committed to the objectives of the partnership and contribute to the financing of its activities;
- Fulfil the requirements set forth in the following documents:

- Council of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 of 15 October 1968, notably Article 17, on freedom of movement for workers within the Community (OJEC No L257 of 19 October 1968, page 2), as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2434/92 of 27 July 1992 and in particular Article 44 thereof;
- Commission Decision 2003/8/EC of 23 December 2002 on the implementing of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 as regards the clearance of vacancies and the applications for employment.
- The EURES Guidelines for 2010-2013.
- Applicants must be legal persons properly constituted and registered in one of the EU Member States or other EFTA/EEA participating countries;
- In application of Article 114 of the Financial Regulation, social partner 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.

b) Selection

The selection criteria will enable the Commission to assess the applicants' organisations financial and operational capacity to complete the proposed triennial work programme.

a) Financial capacity

The applicant must:

- attach a copy of the organisation's annual full accounts for the two last financial years preceding the submission of the application when accounts were closed.
- specify the contribution made by donors other than by the Community including the members.
- non-public applicants must attach an external audit report produced by an approved auditor certifying the accounts for the two last financial years available and giving an assessment of the applicant organisation's financial viability.

b) Operational capacity

The following information must be enclosed in support of the application:

- the organisation's organisational structure: capacity of staff, budget control and financial management, a description of the roles and responsibilities of each staff member, the curricula vitae of senior staff members as well as a list of the members of the management board;
- any references relating to participation in actions financed by the European Community, conclusion of grant agreements and/or contracts with the Commission or other international organisations and Member States over the last 3 years.

c) Award

Award criteria for the three year partnership agreements

- Coherence of the three-year work programme with the objectives of the Guidelines 2010-2013;

- Quality of the three year work programme which must be clear, realistic and well detailed- and which must address most of the actions highlighted by the Guidelines and has a three-year perspective;
- Added value and visibility at European level;
- Impact: the extent to which the proposed activities support mobility in general and in particular respond to the needs of the target groups (job-seekers, job changers, the unemployed and employers) and are tailored to the needs of the target groups;
- Evaluation: quality of the measures proposed to evaluate the implemented activities and the use of monitoring indicators; existence of an adequate linkage between chosen indicators and sources of verification;

Award criteria for the annual proposals

Specific grant agreements, based upon the framework partnership agreements, will then be signed after the partners have directly submitted a proposal to the Commission and following assessment of the proposals received, on the basis of the following criteria:

- Coherence of the annual work plan with the three-year work programme and with the objectives of the Guidelines 2010-2013;
- Quality of the annual work plan which must be clear, realistic and well detailed and must address most of the actions highlighted by the Guidelines;
- Added value and visibility at European level;
- Impact: the extent to which the proposed activities support mobility in general and in particular respond to the needs of the target groups (job-seekers, job changers, the unemployed and employers) and are tailored to the needs of the target groups;
- Evaluation: quality of the measures proposed to evaluate the implemented activities and the use of monitoring indicators; existence of an adequate linkage between chosen indicators and sources of verification;
- Coherence of the budget with the actions proposed.

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements during the year 2010 is EUR 5 581 320.

2.1. Calls for tender

2.1.1. Framework contract on Information, Publications and Communication activities

Lot N° 1: Framework contract on Collection, compilation and editing of information on a regular basis

The aim of this framework contract is to operate the 'EURES News Bureau' and regularly collect and edit news and other information to be used at the various levels of the EURES network, such as internal and external newsletters, contents for the EURES portal and databanks of 'success stories' and media contacts.

Lot N° 2: Framework contract on Development of a common strategic umbrella for and provision of support for EURES communication activities

The aim of the framework contract is to develop brand slogans, communication tools and strategies that will serve as a common strategic umbrella for all EURES

communication activities at both European, national and local/regional level aiming at promoting job mobility and showing the role of the European Union therein.

The indicative timeframe for launching the procedure is the first quarter of 2010.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

2.2.1. *EURES Training*

The objective of the EURES training is to train EURES advisers and other staff involved in EURES activities from Public Employment Services, social partner organisations and other EURES partner organizations in subjects related to the three basic EURES services of information, guidance and placement and other services to be offered to both job-seekers and employers. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL "EURES Training framework contract" VC/2008/1170 concluded on 8 December 2008 for a period of 24 months, renewable once.

2.2.2. *Maintenance, enhancement and continuous development of the EURES IT platform*

The objective is the maintenance, enhancement and continuous development of computerised systems linking the EURES network and its stakeholders. This includes a one-stop web portal, also accessible for disabled people, providing multilingual access to information on job vacancies, CVs of potential candidates, living and working conditions, labour market trends, education and training opportunities as well as other job mobility related contents. This portal should also address the information needs of nationals of third countries, in particular from candidate countries. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG DIGIT framework contract DIGIT/PO/2005/013 (ESP-DESI n° DI/5717) concluded on 5 November 2007 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

2.2.3. *Internet Infrastructure*

The objective is to further develop the EU Job Mobility Portal by adding new functionalities and strengthening multilingualism to meet the needs of growing numbers of users. The enhanced extranet will provide tools to further improve internal communication within the EURES network. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG DIGIT framework contract DIGIT/PO/2005/013 (ESP-DESI n° DI/5717) concluded on 5 November 2007 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

Additionally, a common multilingual taxonomy of occupations and skills tool, based on the ISCO classification, has been developed for the EURES portal and for the exchange of vacancy information among the PES and will be made freely available as a standard tool for all interested stakeholders. The tool needs to be maintained, further developed and translated into Bulgarian and Romanian. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the OPOCE framework contract EUROVOC Thesaurus Management and Dissemination System (reference AO 10122).

2.2.4. *Information and Communication Activities*

In order to provide appropriate information and communication to the public, to the social partners and other relevant actors, as well as the communication aspects of the European Mobility Day 2010" and the "European Job Days", specific contracts will

be concluded on the basis of the DG EMPL framework contract for EURES information and communication activities (2 lots - VC/2007/477 and VC/2007/478) concluded on 7 July 2008 for a period of 12 months, renewable twice.

2.2.5. *Helpdesk for the job mobility portal and other support activities*

The role of the EURES helpdesk is to provide quick and accurate answers to information requests from job seekers, employers and others on job mobility issues in general and on the European Job Mobility portal. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract for the EURES Helpdesk VC/2007/69 concluded on 5 October 2007 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

2.2.6. *EURES NETWORK*

The EURES network meets annually for internal seminars, working groups and working party meetings, and other information sessions and network meetings in an effort to ensure the information flow between its members and to enhance the networking and participation of its members. Additionally, this activity will also cover the organisation of the forward looking events related to "European Mobility Day 2010" and the "European Job Days", which will support the further development of EURES in the policy context after 2010. For this purpose, specific contracts will be concluded on the basis of the DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings" (contract concluded on 26 November 2008 - 7 lots – VC/2008/32, 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).

2.3. **Renewals**

2.3.1. *Translations: European Job Mobility Portal*

Renewal of an existing service contract (reference 68018-04) established with the "Centre de Traduction des Organes de l'Union Européenne". The aim is to provide translation of all the information diffused through the EURES IT portal to all European languages of the EU.

The renewal will be signed in June 2010 for one year duration.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	14 000 000
Operating grants to partners – EURES	14 000 000
PROCUREMENT	5 581 320
TOTAL 04 03 04	19 581 320

04 03 05 - FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS, CO-ORDINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES AND MEASURES FOR MIGRANTS, INCLUDING MIGRANTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

LEGAL BASIS

- Articles 39 and 42 of the EC Treaty
- Council Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 of 15 October 1968 on freedom of movement of workers within the Community (OJ L 257, 19.10.1968, p.2).
- Council Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 of 14 June 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons, to self-employed persons and to members of their families moving within the Community (OJ L 149, 5.7.1971, p.2).
- Council Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 of 21 March 1972 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons, to self-employed persons and to their families moving within the Community (OJ L 74, 27.3.1972, p.1).
- Council Directive 98/49/EC of 29 June 1998 on safeguarding the supplementary pension rights of employed and self-employed persons moving within the Community (OJ L 209, 25.7.1998, p. 46).
- Council Regulation (EC) No 859/2003 of 14 May 2003 extending the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 and Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 to nationals of third countries who are not already covered by those provisions solely on the ground of their nationality (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p.1).
- Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems (OJ L 166, 30.4.2004, p.1) and its Implementing Regulation (COM(2006) 16 final and COM (2006)7 final⁵.

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 4 874 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

These appropriations are intended to cover:

- Analysis and evaluation of the major trends in legislation in the Member States with regard to the free movement of persons and coordination of social security schemes. Financing of networks of experts in that fields;
- Analysis and research on new policy developments in the domain of free movement of workers linked for example to the end of transitional periods and modernisation of social security coordination provisions;
- Support to the work of the Administrative Commission and its sub-groups and follow-up of the decisions taken. Support to the work of the Technical and Advisory Committees on free movement of workers;
- Support to actions preparing the entry into application of the new regulations on social security, including transnational exchanges of experience and information and training initiatives developed at national level;

⁵ The Implementing Regulation is to be adopted on 27th July 2009.

- Financing of actions aimed at providing a better service and raising awareness to the public, including measures aimed at identifying migrant workers' social security problems and measures speeding up and simplifying administrative procedures, analysis of the barriers to free movement and lack of coordination of social security systems and their impact on disabled people, including adaptation of administrative procedures to new information processing techniques, in order to improve the system for acquiring rights and the calculation and payment of benefits pursuant to Regulations (EEC) No 1408/71 and (EEC) No 574/72 (including the cost of translating documents) and Regulation (EC) No 859/2003 as well as Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and its implementing Regulation and the extension Regulation to certain third country nationals;
- The development of information and actions to make public opinion aware of their rights on free movement and coordination of social security schemes;
- The support of the administrative exchange of social security information among Member States, with a view to assisting them in their implementation of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and its Implementing Regulation. This includes the maintenance of the central node of the EESSI (Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information) system.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

1. GRANTS

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

1.1. Call for proposals for transnational actions for training and information on the modernised coordination

Objectives and foreseen results

The new modernised coordination will enter into application at the beginning of 2010. New rules will apply and the electronic exchange of information will be promoted. Effective implementation and enforcement of rights will need to be ensured. This is indeed a shared task where the social security institutions, the Member States administrations and the social partners can play an important role in improving citizens' knowledge of their rights.

The objective of the call is to support initiatives and actions with a cross-national dimension which (1) aims at a smooth transition towards the modernised coordination and (2) aims at improving information of citizens on their rights concerning free movement and the new Regulations.

The call for proposals will finance a large variety of measures, including conferences, round tables, training measures, setting up of networks, publications, studies, reinforcement of administrative capacity (exchange of experience on training, exchange of public servants between Institutions, exchange of best practices and experiences on the coordination), seminars or other tools of information on rights.

Indicative amount and maximum possible rate of co-financing

A global amount of around EUR 1 000 000 is envisaged for this action. Community financial aid granted will not exceed 80% of the total eligible costs of the action. The applicant has to guarantee the co-financing in cash of the remaining 20%. Contributions in kind are not accepted.

Indicative timetable

The call will be launched in February 2010.

Evaluation criteria

a) Exclusion and eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be in conformity with Articles 93(1), 94 and 96(2)(a) of the Financial Regulation;
- Fall within one of the following categories: national social security institutions, social partners organisations, NGO's in the field of free movement;
- Have active partners from several 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. (The verification of financial capacity will not apply to public bodies).
- 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.

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 and priorities of the budget heading;
- the extent to which there is a clear and well-supported diagnosis of the issues addressed in the proposal, the methods used for addressing these issues and a clear indication of the proposal's contribution to the objectives of the call;
- the clarity and feasibility of the proposed work plan, including timetable and methodology, and in particular its capacity to achieve the planned objectives through well-identified and well-planned activities with clear and attainable time-lines;
- the quality of partnerships and multiplier effect of the action;
- the financial quality of the proposal including a reasonable and realistic budget, its likely value for money and a sound cost-efficiency ratio;
- the quality, clarity and detail of budgetary presentation.

1.2. Grants to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly

According to Article 168.1.c) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly. The individual award decisions substantiating the monopoly situation will be adopted at a later stage.

1.2.1. De jure monopolies – Presidency events

These events, highly political in nature and needing representation at the highest level both from national authorities and European representatives, are to be organised exclusively by the Member State holding the Presidency. Given the unique role of the Presidency in the framework of Community activities, the Member State responsible for the organisation of the event is considered as a monopoly.

The Commission intends to co-fund in 2010 two conferences on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and its Implementing Regulation:

- One conference under Spanish Presidency on "Bilateral agreements between EU Member States and third Countries on Social Security". This conference will discuss the follow-up of the Gottardo Court case and possible increased cooperation between Member States in that field.
- One conference under Belgian or Hungarian Presidency on "Following the entry into force of the Regulation (EC) No 883/2004, debate on the consequence of new types of employment on Social Security Coordination". The conference will discuss the Commission Communication on this issue.

The estimated amount is EUR 400 000 (EUR 200 000 per event). The Community financial aid granted will not exceed 80% of the eligible costs.

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 3 074 000.

2.1. Calls for tender

2.1.1. Organising training and setting up a network on the European co-ordination of social security schemes (trESS)

Launch of a call for tender for the constitution of a network of independent experts in the field of European social security law. The network will organise seminars and establish exchanges between people involved in social security coordination at national level. Moreover it will report to the European Commission on implementation problems encountered in the EU Member States and undertake legal analysis on the coordination Regulations. The call is to be published in the first quarter of 2010.

2.1.2. Service contract to assist the Audit Board

Service contract to assist the Audit Board with its task to ensure the good functioning of the Community system for refunds between national social security institutions of health care costs in line with Article 74 of the Regulation 883/2004. The call will be published in the second half of 2009 (the call was foreseen in the second update of the Financing Decision for 2009 (C(2009)4619 of 19 June 2009) taking account of the results of an evaluation on the previous period, but will have financial implications only in 2010.

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

Maximum 5 low-value studies will be commissioned. The studies will focus on clarification of interpretation and/or the analysis of national systems or practices necessary for the interpretation of the new Regulations. The procedures will be launched in the first and second quarters of 2010.

2.1.4. *Service contract for the development of a reference implementation of eEHIC*

eEHIC system is possible where different smart cards and card reading infrastructure are interoperating. Therefore, the introduction of eEHIC should start with a piloting phase for a relatively small number of member States. The reference implementation to be developed should encompass software components which will be common to several Member States. The call will be published in the first quarter of 2010.

2.1.5. *Service contract to update EUlisses*

Work to be carried out to provide the information currently available on EUlisses, extending it to all social security sectors and adapting the content to the new regulations. The call will be published in the first quarter of 2010.

2.1.6. *Service contract on the coordination system in the domain of pensions*

Service contract on the coordination of supplementary schemes, including the civil service sector. The call will be published in the first quarter of 2010.

2.1.7. *Service contract to support the work of the Technical Commission*

Service contract to support the work of the Technical Commission support in the field of co-ordination of social security. The call will be published in the first quarter of 2010.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

2.2.1. *Seminars/Events in relation with the work of the Administrative Commission*

A number of specific activities (seminars and events) will be organised with a view to further prepare the Institutions to the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 (on the co-ordination of social security systems) and to the Implementing Regulation. These activities will be organised through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract 'Meetings' concluded on 26 November 2008 (7 lots – VC/2008/63, 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. *2.2.2. Campaign on the Modernised social security coordination*

Launch of an information campaign with the view of raising awareness of European citizens on the new modernised social security coordination. This campaign will be focused on informing the citizens about their rights and new information obligations from the Regulations. These activities will be implemented on the basis of the DG EMPL framework contract for services in support of 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.

2.2.3. *2.2.3. Monitoring and development of EESSI*

EESSI is a tool which conditions the ability of social security institutions of all MS to grant social security benefits to mobile citizens in a speedy and efficient way. The Commission role in assisting MS and providing them with adequate support and tools for the common part of the network is a key element for implementing a regulation which is one of the most concrete examples of achievement in favour of the citizens.

The EESSI support team will particularly during the initial phase be faced with many questions for assistance. Particularly, when the system rolls out in full production, all

unresolved open issues and defects will show and require an urgent solution. It should be able to effectively review and audit Siemens during the contract and ensure that no significant gaps from an optimal development path are accumulated. In addition, it should be able to "own" the system after the handover, i.e. being in control of all aspects of an IT system. It should also be able to carry on with the implementation of subsequent versions including any necessary technical adaptations as well as the day to day operation of the system. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DIGIT framework contract – ESP DESYS Nr 05710 to 5724.

2.2.4. *Impact Assessment*

An impact assessment on legislative implication of new patterns of mobility will be carried out. This activity will be implemented through the conclusion of a specific contract based on the DG EMPL multiple framework contract 'Evaluation and Impact Assessment activities' concluded on 21 April 2009 (5 lots – VC/2009/35 to VC/2009/56), for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

2.3. Renewals

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

Renewal of the contract VC/2009/379 published in the second quarter of 2009 under the reference VT/2009/26 (Official Journal No 2009/S 072-103624 of 15 April 2009).

3. OTHER INTERVENTIONS

3.1. Subdelegation to DG DIGIT

EESSI Hosting and maintenance costs

An estimated amount of EUR 200 000 is envisaged to cover the hosting and maintenance costs (including staffing) of the EESSI system that will be charged by DIGIT in 2010. The transfer of funds will be executed through a subdelegation to DIGIT. The cooperation will be documented by a hosting agreement on the basis of a "*protocole d'accord*".

3.2. Provision for reimbursement of translation costs incurred in the first quarter of 2010

Article 81.b of Regulation (EEC) 1408/71 on "application of social security schemes to employed persons, to self-employed persons and to members of their families moving within the Community" indicates that the Commission is entitled to provide, on request from the relevant institutions and authorities, funding for the translation of documents related to the implementation of the regulation particularly the requests made by the persons wanting to benefit from this regulation.

An amount of EUR 200 000 is envisaged to this aim and shared by 27 Member States according to the proportional method accepted in 2002 by the Administrative Commission.

SUMMARY TABLE

<i>ACTIONS</i>	<i>INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR</i>
GRANTS	1 400 000
Calls for proposals	1 000 000
De jure monopolies	400 000
PROCUREMENT	3 074 000
SUBDELEGATIONS	200 000
TRANSLATION COSTS	200 000
TOTAL 04 03 05	4 874 000

04 03 07 - ANALYSIS OF AND STUDIES ON THE SOCIAL SITUATION, DEMOGRAPHICS AND THE FAMILY
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LEGAL BASIS

Articles 143 and 145 of the EC Treaty

On the basis of these articles, the Commission is called on to produce reports on the social situation, including specific chapters on demographic trends (especially their interaction with the labour market and social protection). Moreover, the implementation of the Renewed Social Policy Agenda as well as the identification of future priorities for social policies at the EU level needs to be underpinned by research and policy analyses.

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

EUR 3 876 000

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

OBJECTIVES: The aim is to promote the development of comparative analysis and the exchange of views and experience at all relevant levels (regional, national, EU, world) regarding the social and demographic situation and the socio-economic trends in the EU.

PRIORITIES: Development of policy relevant analysis in the area of social cohesion and the implications of demographic trends which will feed into the reports on the demographic future and on the social situation. This includes the management of an Observatory of the Social Situation, and the cooperation with relevant activities in Member States and with international organisations.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED**1. GRANTS**

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

1.1. Grants to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly

According to Article 168.1.c) of the Implementing Rules, grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly. The individual award decisions substantiating the monopoly situation will be adopted at a later stage.

1.1.1. De jure monopolies – Presidency events

These events, highly political in nature and needing representation at the highest level both from national Authorities and European representatives, are to be organised exclusively by the Member State holding the Presidency. Given the unique role of the Presidency in the framework of Community activities, the Member State responsible for the organisation of the event is considered as a monopoly.

Planned for the first semester 2011, an event under the Hungarian Presidency on the theme "Tackling issues related to demographic change" will be co-financed by the Commission to a maximum of EUR 300 000 representing maximum 80% of the total eligible costs of the action.

2. PROCUREMENT

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurements is EUR 2 976 000.

2.1. Calls for tender

2.1.1. *Study on the social impact of the out-migration*

This study intends to provide the knowledge base for addressing the negative social impacts that Countries of Eastern Europe had experienced in their transition processes as a result of significant emigration and migration from rural to urban regions. The call will be published in the first quarter of 2010.

Remark: This study will be co-financed by budget line 04 04 01 02 (80%).

2.1.2. *Studies and conceptual support for the Expert Group on Demography Issues and on aspects of the social situation*

A maximum of 5 low value studies or reports will be commissioned to provide support to the work of the Group of Government Experts on Demographic Issues, to explore new social issues or methodological approaches for monitoring aspects of the social situation or to provide assistance to policy makers and stakeholders who are trying to tackle social policy challenges. The aim of these activities will be to gather the available knowledge on specific issues related to the social situation, demography and families or to provide practical guidance for policy makers at the national or regional level to help them tackle social and demographic issues. In addition, *ex post* and *ex ante* evaluations of ongoing or envisaged EU initiatives in the demographic and social area will be funded. The calls will be launched throughout 2010.

2.2. Use of existing framework contracts

2.2.1. *Eurobarometer on the social climate in the EU*

A survey on the social climate in the EU will be carried out to gauge the perception of a range of key dimensions of social conditions in the EU. The results will be used in the 2009 Social Situation Report. It is envisaged that such a survey will be repeated to monitor the evolution of the social climate in the EU.

A survey on "new Europeans and demographic diversity" will be carried out to measure the extent to which the population living in the EU has ties across national borders, be it through migration, mixed marriages, long-stays in other countries for study, work or retirement. The findings will be used in the 2010 Demography Report in a chapter that will explore to what extent populations in the EU can still be defined as belonging to one particular Member State or whether an 'ever closer Union' is now also becoming a reality at the level of individuals.

The specific contract will be concluded on the basis of the DG COMM framework contract for Eurobarometer No PRESS-B-1/2004-44/B1 concluded on 16 February 2006 for a period of 12 months, renewable three times.

2.2.2. *Seminars/events and communication activities related to demographic and social issues*

A number of smaller activities (seminars, events and communication activities) will be organised with a view to exploring themes and issues related to Europe's demographic future and social policy issues and disseminating policy relevant material. These activities will be implemented through the conclusion of specific contracts based on the DG EMPL framework contract "Meetings", concluded on 26 November 2008 (7 lots - VC/2008/63, VC/2008/864, VC/2008/867, VC/2008/868, VD/2008/868, VC/2008/869 and VC/2008/870) for a period of 24 months, renewable once.

2.3. Renewals

2.3.1. *Content internet portal of the European Alliance for Families*

Renewal of the contract VC/2008/253 concluded on 24 November 2008 for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

2.3.2. *The European Observatory on Demography and the Social Situation*

Renewal of the contract concluded on 4 December 2008 (3 lots – VC/2008/322, VC/2008/931 and VC/2008/932) for a period of 12 months, renewable 3 times.

3. OTHER INTERVENTIONS

3.1. Joint management

Co-operation with the OECD on the development of a database on families and on measuring the quality of life and life satisfaction and the impact of policies

The Commission's Communication *The Demographic Future of Europe* (COM (2006)571 of 12 October 2006) has triggered a renewed and strong interest in family policies, not only from the Commission but also from the Member States, the social partners and NGOs. The Communication on *Promoting Solidarity Between the Generations* (COM (2007)244 of 10 May 2007) announced that the Commission will cooperate on the development of the OECD's family database. The OECD has developed a framework for collating indicators in the OECD Family Database in four broad categories: 1) the structure of families; 2) the labour market position of families; 3) public policies for families and children; and 4) child outcomes. In light of the above and in order to ensure the further development of indicators for use by EU policy makers and, as far as possible, the coverage of all EU Member States, the EU envisages to financially support work on this database and promote its use in the modernisation of policies for families across the EU.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is also the most appropriate partner for the Commission to pursue comparative studies on the quality of life and life satisfaction, as well as policies impacting on these, in the EU and other industrialised regions. It is therefore of great interest for the Commission to continue the co-operation in this area started with the OECD in 2008 and to develop further research and notably dissemination activities targeted at policy makers.

The financial participation of the Commission for these co-operation projects will be limited to EUR 600 000. The contribution agreements are to be signed by July 2010.

According to Article 53d of the Financial Regulation and 43 of the Implementing Rules, the appropriations used in joint management with international organisations shall finance projects or programmes jointly elaborated between the Commission and the international organisation.

In anticipation of the results of the assessment required under Article 53 d of the Financial Regulation, the Authorising Officer deems that, based on the longstanding and problem free cooperation with the OECD, joint management mode can be proposed and a Convention can be signed in accordance with the provisions laid down in Article 43 of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation.

SUMMARY TABLE

ACTIONS	INDICATIVE AMOUNT IN EUR
GRANTS	300 000
De jure monopolies	300 000
PROCUREMENT	2 976 000
JOINT MANAGEMENT	600 000
TOTAL 04 03 07	3 876 000

04 04 02 01 – INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY - SUBSIDY UNDER TITLES 1 AND 2**04 04 02 02 – INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY - SUBSIDY UNDER TITLE 3****AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS**

04 04 02 01 - EUR 3 440 000

04 04 02 02 - EUR 3 500 000

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EC) No 1922/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 20 December 2006, establishing a European Institute for Gender Equality (OJ L 403 of 30.12.2006).

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The budget line is intended to finance the activities of the European Institute for Gender Equality, whose head office has been established in Vilnius (Lithuania).

The European Institute for Gender Equality is a European agency to support the Member States and the European institutions (in particular the Commission) in their efforts to promote gender equality, to fight discrimination based on sex and to raise awareness of gender issues. The tasks of the Institute are to collect and analyze comparable data on gender issues, to develop methodological tools, in particular for the integration of the gender dimension in all policy areas, to facilitate the exchange of best practices and dialogue among stakeholders, and to raise awareness among EU citizens.

The Institute is temporarily based in Brussels before moving to its seat in Vilnius. The full implementation of the Institute in Vilnius is foreseen for 2010, with the completion of the recruitment of the key staff (The Director has been appointed in April 2009), the operational installation of the premises, the administrative and the logistic support put in place and the presentation of the annual work programme.

DESCRIPTION OF INTERVENTIONS TO BE FINANCED

For 2010, a subsidy of EUR 3 440 000 is foreseen to cover the Institute's staff and administrative expenditure (titles 1 and 2), while a subsidy of EUR 3 500 000 is foreseen to cover the Institute's operating expenditure for the work programme (Title 3).

04 04 03 01 - EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS - SUBSIDY UNDER TITLES 1 AND 2

04 04 03 02 - EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS - SUBSIDY UNDER TITLE 3

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75 of the Council of 26 May 1975 on the creation of a European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (OJ L 139, 30.5.1975, p1), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1111/2005 of 24 June 2005 (OJ L 184, 15.7.2005, p. 1).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

04 04 03 01 — EUR 12 900 000

04 04 03 02 — EUR 6 167 159

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

The budget line is intended to finance the activities of a Decentralised Agency, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, whose role is to contribute to the planning and design of better living and working conditions in Europe.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

For 2010, a subsidy of EUR 12 900 000 is foreseen to cover the Foundation's staff and administrative expenditure (titles 1 and 2), while a subsidy of EUR 6 167 159 is foreseen to cover the Foundation's operating expenditure for the work programme (Title 3).

04 04 04 02 - EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK - SUBSIDY UNDER TITLES 1 AND 2

04 04 04 03 - EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK - SUBSIDY UNDER TITLE 3

LEGAL BASIS

Council Regulation (EC) No 2062/94 of 18 July 1994 establishing a European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (OJ L 216, 20.8.1994, p. 1).

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS

04 04 04 02 — EUR 6 750 000

04 04 04 03 — EUR 6 993 434

GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE LINE AND PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR

Title 1 and 2 appropriations are intended to cover the personnel expenses and the payment of buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure and office facilities.

Title 3 appropriations are intended to finance the operational expenditures of the Agency's activities.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED

For 2010, a subsidy of EUR 6 750 000 is foreseen to cover the Agency's staff and administrative expenditure (titles 1 and 2).

Activities for which the operational costs will be financed from title 3 are defined in EU-OSHA's draft 2010 annual management plan which defines activities in four mission-related areas:

- European Risk Observatory
- Working Environment Information
- Communication, Campaigning and Promotion
- Networking and Coordination

Total amount for Title 3 in 2010 is EUR 6 993 434.

The 2010 activities are implemented within the Agency's 2009-2013 Strategy which aims at ensuring a decisive contribution from EU-OSHA to the implementation of the Community Strategy on OSH 2007-2012.

