MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSION AMENDING COMMISSION DECISION C(2006)310 ON ADOPTING A 2006 WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS AND PROCUREMENTS IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

This Commission decision on amending Commission decision C(2006)310 on adopting a 2006 work programme for grants and procurements in the field of economic and financial affairs has been prepared in accordance with article 75 of the Financial Regulation and article 15 of the Internal Rules 2005 for the procurement and in accordance with article 110 of the Financial Regulation and article 166 of the Implementing Rules for the grants.

The initial work programme was adopted on 2nd February 2006 (Decision C/2006/0310).

Under the activity "Economic and Monetary Union" of Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, the proposal covers the following actions:

- Coordination and surveillance of EMU through conferences, workshops, seminars, databases, studies, technical assistance and general publications;
- PRINCE communication on economic and monetary union including the euro through conferences, meetings with directors of communication, exhibitions, stands, studies, surveys, publications, public relations material, specialised speakers and twinning programme.

This Commission decision adds new actions under EMU and amends the budgetary amounts corresponding to specific categories of actions under PRINCE.

In view of the above, the Commission is invited:

- To approve the annexed decision on amending Commission decision C(2006)310 on adopting a 2006 work programme for grants and procurements in the field of economic and financial affairs;
- To authorise publication of this complementary work programme on the Commission's website;
- To confirm that the complementary work programme of the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs ranks as a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation and Article 90 of the Implementing Rules for the Financial Regulation and constitutes a budgetary implementation framework for the purposes of Article 15 of the Internal Rules.

Draft

COMMISSION DECISION

of [...]

amending Commission decision C(2006)310 on adopting a 2006 work programme for grants and procurements in the field of economic and financial affairs

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities, as last amended by Commission Regulation 1248/2006 of 7 August 2006, OJ L 227/3 19/8/2006, and in particular Articles 90 and 166 thereof,

Having regard to the fact that expenditure falling under the activity "Economic and Monetary Union" (01 02 02 – Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union – and 01 02 04 – Prince Communication on economic and monetary union, including the euro) result from the Commission's prerogatives at institutional level, as provided for by Article 49(2)(c) of the Financial Regulation,

Having regard to the fact that the booking of affected income during the budgetary year on budget line "01 02 02 – Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union" implies a revision of the existing 2006 financing decision through the addition of new actions to be financed during the 2006 budgetary year,

Having regard to the fact that unexpected developments with respect to the adoption process of the euro by some new Member States leads to a necessary downwards revision of the budgetary amount initially foreseen for financing actions in favour of these countries on budget line "01 02 04 – Prince – Communication on economic and monetary union, including the euro" and a reattribution of these funds to other categories of actions.

Whereas:

- (1) Under Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1605/2002 (the "Financial Regulation"), the commitment of every item of expenditure shall be preceded by a financing decision adopted by the institution or the authorities to which powers have been delegated by the institution.
- (2) Under Article 15 of the Internal Rules on the implementation of the general budget of the European Communities (2006), items of expenditure related to appropriations which can be implemented without a basic act in accordance with Article 49(2) of the Financial Regulation have to be authorised through a financing decision taken by the Commission offering an equivalent framework.

- (3) The amendments to the 2006 work programme for grants and procurements of Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (set out in detail in the annex) exclusively relate to procurements under the general activity "Economic and Monetary Union".
- (4) Under Article 110 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (the "Financial Regulation"), grants are subject to an annual programme, to be published at the start of the financial year.
- (5) Under Article 166 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 (the "Implementing Rules"), the work programme for grants is adopted by the Commission. It specifies the basic act, the objectives, the schedule of calls for proposals with the indicative amount, and the results expected.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The 2006 work programme for grants and procurements annexed to the Commission decision C(2006)310 is amended in accordance with the modifications listed in the annex to the present decision.

Done at Brussels, [...]

For the Commission
[...]
Member of the Commission

ANNEX

- 1. In heading "2. Economic and Monetary Union", the text relating to budget line 01 02 02 is replaced by the following:
 - "01 02 02 Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union Appropriations for commitments 2006: 6,580,000 €"
- 2. In sub-heading "2.1.4. Access to databases", the following paragraph is inserted at the end of the list of indents:
 - "- Information service for emerging markets: provision of online news and information service for emerging markets. The existing contract will be prolonged for a further twelve months and its geographical scope will be extended to the new Member States from Central and Eastern Europe and to Asia, Latin America and Africa. The total cost of this service will be 80,000 €."
- 3. In sub-heading "2.1.5. Studies and evaluations", the following paragraph is inserted at the end of the list of described projects:

"Review of the Slovenian changeover to the euro

Slovenia will be the first Member State to adopt the euro after 1 January 2002. The Slovenian changeover moreover constitutes the first opportunity to assess the effectiveness and smoothness of a changeover under a "big bang" scenario. A comprehensive ex-post review of the Slovenian changeover should be carried out in order to deepen our understanding of the critical elements in the process and to draw lessons for future changeover preparations.

The review should take the form of a study to be conducted by an independent external consultant under the new DG BUDG Framework Contract for procurement of evaluation and evaluation related services (envisaged to be signed in September/October 2006). The review should cover all relevant aspects of the transition (notably cash changeover, conversion of financial and administrative systems, changeover of the public sector, information and communication on the euro). It should be based on an extensive consultation of the most relevant actors and sectors (through interviewing), on available quantitative information, and should include an assessment of the coverage of the changeover in the national media. The active cooperation and involvement of the Slovenian authorities will be sought as this constitutes an essential condition for conducting a comprehensive review.

Justification: Preparing and accompanying the enlargement of the euro area is one of DG ECFIN's core activities under the Commission's Work Programme. A comprehensive review of the Slovenian experience will help us to draw the right lessons for the future and thus constitute valuable input for all future preparations. The conclusions will furthermore be discussed and examined in specialised fora such as the "Public Administration Network" (PAN II) and the Directors of Communication on the euro and EMU (DIR-COM). Recourse to an external evaluator allows for an independent assessment of the changeover."

4. In sub-heading "2.2.1. Decentralised activities carried out in cooperation with the Member States", the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

"Specific contracts under framework contracts from DG ECFIN or other DGs or specific ad-hoc financing conventions with Member States for a total budget amount of 1,380,000 €."

5. In sub-heading "2.2.1.1. Co-financing or financing of actions through partnership agreements", the following paragraph 5 is inserted:

"The basic objectives of such Community grants are to financially support information campaigns by new Member States about the operation of the economic and monetary union, the benefits of the common currency and the reasons for deciding to adopt the euro and the role of the European System of Central Banks after entering the euro-area. The expected results of such Community grants are to inform and educate the public on all aspects of the economic and monetary union and the euro in the period before, during and right after the introduction of the euro, to build people's confidence in the euro, to ensure a smooth changeover and to provide follow-up advice. The maximum possible rate of co-financing for such communication actions by new Member States will be 50%."

6. In sub-heading "2.2.2. Conference, seminars and special events on the euro and EMU within the EU, information activities in third countries and exhibitions and public stands", the second paragraph is replaced by the following:

"Specific contracts under framework contracts from DG ECFIN will be signed and existing framework contracts from other DGs or the SCIC will also be used for a total budget amount of 1,690,000 €."

7. In sub-heading "2.2.3. Studies, surveys, publication and promotional material", the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

"Specific contracts under framework contracts from DG ECFIN with Media Consulta, ESN and Segno Associati or under framework contracts from DG PRESS with Gallup Europe will be signed for a total budget amount of 1,930,000 €."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(cf. Article 16 of the Internal Rules)

FORM TO BE USED WHERE THE WORK PROGRAMME CONSTITUTES A FINANCING DECISION (OR FOR REVISION PURPOSES)

POLICY AREA(S): ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

ACTIVITY (-IES): ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

COMMISSION DECISION ON AMENDING COMMISSION DECISION C(2006)310 ON ADOPTING A 2006 WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS AND PROCUREMENTS IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

TITLE OF THE ACTIONS:

- 1. COORDINATION AND SURVEILLANCE OF EMU THROUGH CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, DATABASES, STUDIES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND GENERAL PUBLICATIONS
- 2. PRINCE COMMUNICATION ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION INCLUDING THE EURO THROUGH CONFERENCES, MEETINGS WITH DIRECTORS OF COMMUNICATION, EXHIBITIONS, STANDS, STUDIES, SURVEYS, PUBLICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS MATERIAL, SPECIALISED SPEAKERS AND TWINNING PROGRAMME

1. BUDGET HEADING(S) CONCERNED AND TITLE(S)

CHAPTER 01 02 ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

01 02 02 Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union

01 02 04 PRINCE Communication on economic and monetary union including the euro

2. LEGAL BASIS

01 02 02 and 01 02 04 - Tasks resulting from the Commission's prerogatives at institutional level, as provided for by Article 49(2) of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1).

3. OVERALL FIGURES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR (IN EUROS)

3.a. - Current year

01 02 02 - Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union

	<u>Date</u>	<u>CA</u>
TOTAL appropriation		<u>6 580 000</u>
Initial appropriation for the financial year (budget)		6 400 000
Transfers (revenue from publication sales)		180 000
Appropriations carried over from 2005 to 2006		
Appropriations already set aside by the work programme for grants (B&C surveys, EFN)		5 000 000
Balance available		1 580 000
Conferences, workshops and seminars:		235 000
- Third Annual Economic Research Conference		
- Seminars - Economic Seminar Programme	1	
- Seminars - Visiting Fellows Programme		
Workshop - The role of national budgetary institutions in EU fiscal surveillance		
Access to databases		<u>530 000</u>
Studies and evaluations:		625 000
Studies – European-wide monthly business survey in the financial service sector		
- Evaluation of DG ECFIN's forecasting services		
Evaluation of DG ECFIN's analyses and economic evaluation activities		
Evaluation of the Slovenian changeover to the euro		
General Publications		190 000
TOTAL for the measures proposed		1 580 000

01 02 04 PRINCE - Communication on Economic and Monetary Union including the euro

	<u>Date</u>	<u>CA</u>
TOTAL appropriation for whole budget heading		5 000 000
Initial appropriation for the financial year (budget)		5 000 000
Transfers		
Decentralised actions to be organised in the new Member States under strategic partnership agreements or ad-hoc partnerships and twinning programmes		1 380 000
Balance available		3 620 000
Conferences, events and seminars on the euro and EMU within the EU, information activities in third countries and exhibitions and public stands		<u>1 690 000</u>
Studies, surveys, publications and promotional material		1 930 000
TOTAL proposed		3 620 000

4. **DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION**

See Annexe 1 to the Decision.

5. METHOD OF CALCULATION ADOPTED

Not applicable to the 2006 work programme.

6. PAYMENT SCHEDULE (IN EUROS)

Headings		Commitment 2006	Payment					
			2006	2007	2008	2009		
01 02 02	02 02							
	TOTAL 01 02 02	6 580 000	4 180 000	2.400.000				
01 02 04								
	TOTAL 01 02 04	5.000.000	4.000.000	1.000.000				