

MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMISSION
ON A FINANCING DECISION RELATING TO A 2008 WORK PROGRAMME FOR
GRANTS IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

The Commission decision on a 2008 work programme for grants in the field of economic and financial affairs has been prepared in accordance with article 110 of the Financial Regulation and article 166 of the Implementing Rules for the grants.

The proposal relates to grants to be financed under the Joint Harmonised European Union Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys. The group of actions will result from a call for proposals.

In accordance with Articles 49.6 and 75.2 of the Financial Regulation, the work programme for general grants awarded within the framework of a call for proposals also contains the information required for adopting a financing decision.

Grant applicants will be selected according to their financial capacity and their operational capability. They must have at least three year's proven experience in preparing and carrying out surveys, proven experience in evaluating survey results and addressing methodological questions and the ability to apply the methodology of the Joint Harmonised EU Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys.

Grants will be awarded according to five criteria:

- The candidate's degree of expertise and experience in the relevant operational areas.
- The candidate's degree of expertise and experience in constructing indicators based on survey results and in using survey results for cyclical and economic analysis and research, including analysis by sector.
- The effectiveness of the proposed survey methodology including sample design, sample size, coverage rate, response rate, etc.
- The candidate's level of competence and knowledge of the special survey features of the sector and country where they intend to carry out the survey(s).
- The efficiency of the candidate's work organisation, in terms of flexibility, infrastructure, qualified staff and facilities for carrying out the work, reporting the results, participating in preparing the surveys under the joint harmonised programme and liaising with the Commission.

The Commission will now adopt a decision on a 2008 work programme in the field of economic and financial affairs. On this basis, it is requested to adopt the attached Decision.

In view of the above, the Commission is invited:

- To approve the annexed 2008 work programme of the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs;
- To authorise publication of this work programme on the Commission's website;
- To confirm that the 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.

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;

WORK PROGRAMME FOR: 2008

TITLE OF THE ACTION:

COORDINATION AND SURVEILLANCE OF ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION THROUGH THE JOINT
HARMONISED EUROPEAN PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS AND CONSUMER SURVEYS

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**

2. LEGAL BASIS

01 02 02 - Tasks resulting from the Commission's prerogatives at institutional level, as provided for by Article 49.6 (d) 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), as last amended by Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) N° 1995/2006 of 13 December 2006 (OJ L 390, 30.12.2006).

The Financial Decision mentioned is subject to the definitive availability of an appropriation of 6.750.000 € of 2008 Budget (see point 3 of the Financial statement).

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

3.a. – Year 2008

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

	<i>Date</i>	<i>CA</i>
<u>TOTAL appropriation</u>		<u>6 750 000</u>
<u>Initial appropriation for the financial year (budget)</u>		<u>6 750 000</u>
<u>Appropriations carried over from 2007 to 2008</u>		
<u>Appropriations already set aside by the work programme for grants (Business & Consumer surveys)</u>		<u>5 000 000</u>
<u>Balance available (for procurements)</u>		<u>1 750 000</u>
<u>Conferences, workshops and seminars:</u>		
<u>Access to databases</u>		
<u>Studies and evaluations:</u>		
<u>General Publications</u>		
<u>TOTAL for the measures proposed</u>		
<u>Other activities to be defined for 2008</u>		<u>1 750 000</u>

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

See Annex 1 to the Decision.

5. METHOD OF CALCULATION ADOPTED

Not applicable to the 2008 work programme.

6. PAYMENT SCHEDULE (IN EUROS)

Headings 2008	Commitment Payment	Payment			
		2008	2009	2010	2011
Business and Consumer surveys	5.000.000	2.000.000	2.800.000	200.000	
Conferences, databases, studies, publications etc.	1.750.000	235.100	1.286.057	228.843	
TOTAL 01 02 02	6.750.000	2.235.100	4.086.057	428.843	

Draft

COMMISSION DECISION

of [...]

on adopting a 2008 work programme for grants 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 (EC, Euratom) 478/2007 of 23 April 2007 ("The Implementing Rules"), and in particular Article 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) results from the Commission's prerogatives at institutional level, as provided for by Article 49.6(d) of the Financial Regulation.

Whereas:

- (1) Under Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 as last amended by Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006 of 13 December 2006, the commitment of the 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 (2007), 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) Under Article 110 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 as last amended by Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006 of 13 December 2006, grants shall be subject to an annual programme, to be published no later than the 31 March of the year of the implementation.
- (4) Under Article 166 of the Implementing Rules) No 478/2007 of 23 April 2007 annual work programme for grants shall be adopted by the Commission. It shall specify the basic act, the objectives, the schedule of calls for proposals with the indicative amount, and the results expected.

- (5) The 2008 annual work programme for grants of the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs comprises of grant agreements under the Joint Harmonised European Union Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys .

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The 2008 work programme for grants annexed to the present decision is adopted.

Done at Brussels, [...]

For the Commission

[...]

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

Relating to the Financing of actions to be carried out in 2008 under the general activities of Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs: *“Economic and Monetary Union”*.

1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Article 75 of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities, the commitment of the expenditure shall be preceded by a financing decision adopted by the institution or the authorities to which powers have been delegated by the institution. According to Article 90 of the Implementing Rules, the financing decision shall determine the essential elements of an action involving expenditure from the budget.

The Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) organises its activities around the following five ABB (activity based budgeting) activities:

- **Economic and Monetary Union**
- **International Economic and Financial Affairs**
- **Financial Operations and Instruments**
- **Policy Strategy and Coordination for DG Economic and Financial Affairs**
- **Administrative Support for DG Economic and Financial Affairs**

The present document forms a 2008 financing decision of DG ECFIN for actions to be carried out under the first of the above-mentioned ABB activities *Economic and Monetary Union*. These actions will be realised by means of grants. A description of the planned actions within this ABB activity is given below.

2. ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

One of the general objectives of DG ECFIN is “to foster EU growth, employment creation and sustainable development”. Within this framework, the ABB activity “*Economic and Monetary Union*” (EMU) embodies the core activity of DG ECFIN. EMU is multifaceted and implies notably the realisation of objectives covering public finance issues, monetary policy issues, exchange rate issues, the coordination of national economic policies, structural reform as well as legal and practical questions. More generally, the EMU activity gives rise to a constant production of analytical and policy notes on a variety of subjects, both within the Commission and to outside bodies (Ecofin, Eurogroup, Economic and Financial Committee, Economic Policy Committee, etc.).

The budget lines related to the above activity are the following:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 01 02 02 | Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union
Appropriations for commitments 2008: 6,750,000 € |
| 01 02 04 | Prince – Communication on economic and monetary union, including the euro
Appropriations for commitments 2008: 7,700,000 € |

2.1. Budget line 01 02 02 – Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union

An important part of the appropriations (5,000,000 €) under this budget line covers grants intended to carry out the Joint Harmonised European Union Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys. This programme is described in detail in a Commission Communication of 12th July 2006 (COM(2006)379 final).

The remaining appropriations on this budget line (1,750,000 €) will be the subject of a separate proposal and are described in detail in a Commission Communication of 14th July 2006 (COM(2006)389 final).

DG ECFIN expenditures for the line 01 02 02 (Coordination and surveillance of economic and monetary union) do not require a basic act as they are covered by Article 49.2(c) of the Financial Regulation on the institutional prerogatives of the Commission.

On the basis of these prerogatives, the following actions are planned:

2.1.1. Joint Harmonised European Union Programme of Business and Consumer Surveys (BCS)

2.1.1.1. Introduction

One of the actions undertaken under the objective to support the Commission's internal capacity to conduct economic studies is the harmonisation, coordination, analysis and dissemination of business and consumer surveys in Member States.

Harmonisation is essential to allow the comparison of business cycles in the different Member States and the calculation of meaningful business cycle indices for the euro area and for the EU as a whole, in order to inform the EU authorities, the Member States and the various economic agents about the present economic situation. Business and consumer surveys summarise attitudes and judgements of a large number of managers and consumers for different sectors of the economy in the European Union. Results are published on a monthly basis.

In view of the time lag involved before results become available for countries applying for EU membership, work needs to be set in motion before the actual accession date (selection of suitable national institutes, technical assistance, etc.), which implies that business and consumer surveys are also conducted in these countries. As a result, these activities also contribute to the realisation of another objective of DG ECFIN ("to prepare for further enlargement"), which falls under the ABB activity "International Economic and Financial Affairs".

2.1.1.2. Work programme 2008

The Commission's share in the joint financing may not exceed 50% of eligible expenditure incurred.

Procedure	Duration	Contractual method	Annual indicative amount for 2008	Objectives / expected results
Call for Proposals to be launched in Summer 2007	3 years 1 May 2008 to 30 April 2011	Framework partnership agreement in accordance with Art.108 of Financial Regulation and Art.163 of its Implementing Rules	5 000 000	<p>Objectives: To collect data on the opinions of business managers and consumers in all Member States and in the candidate countries on the state of their economies. To this effect, surveys are carried out in various economic sectors (industry, construction, retail trade, investment, services sector and households) in accordance with a harmonised methodology.</p> <p>Results: As a result, timely and comparable information on the state of the individual countries' business cycle should become available, which can be aggregated meaningfully into EU and euro area aggregates. Such information has become an essential tool for policy making in the economic and monetary union.</p>

2.2. Budget line 01 02 04 – Prince Communication on economic and monetary union, including the euro

The appropriations (7,700,000 €) on this budget line will be the subject of a separate proposal.

