STANDARD PROJECT FICHE FOR PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES AND AGENCIES

1. Basic Information

1.1 Country: Cyprus

1.2 Title: Participation of Cyprus in Community Programmes and Agencies

2. Description

On the basis of Association Council decisions and Agreements, candidate countries may participate in certain European Community programmes and agencies. EU pre-accession programmes can be used to help a candidate country to meet part of the costs of participating in those programmes and agencies (as foreseen in the pre-accession Regulation (EC) No 555/2000, Art 1, § 1). As from 2000, these funds are made available each year as part of the EU pre-accession programme so as to co-finance the financial contribution to be paid by the country to participate in these programmes and agencies in the following year.

A maximum of 10% of the pre-accession programme may be used to co-finance participation in Community programmes and Agencies other than the Research and Development framework programme. Participation in the R&D programme does not count towards the 10% limit.

The main objective of the project is to enable Cyprus to become better acquainted with Community institutions, policies, working methods and procedures in a wide range of areas, which will facilitate the integration of the country into the European Union, as part of the specific pre-accession strategy included in the Presidency Conclusions (par.22) of the Luxemburg European Council (December 1997).

Cyprus has been participating, since 1997, in the first phase of Leonardo, Socrates and Youth for Europe Programmes. Cyprus, as from 2001, in accordance with the relevant Agreement, signed on the 11th of January 2001, participates in the Leonardo II, Socrates II and Youth. It also participates in the 5th Framework Programme for Research and Development, and has participated in Media II and the Third Multiannual Programme for Small and Medium Enterprises which are now expired. The participation of Cyprus will be further pursued in the progressive opening to Cyprus of other programmes. For example, in the coming years Cyprus also intends to participate among others, in the Save, Altener, Customs 2002, Fiscalis, Culture 2000 and Media plus Programmes.
Cyprus will also fully participate, form the year 2001 in the *European Environmental Agency* and is expected to fully participate also in other Community Agencies soon.

Already, in the context of the programming of the Pre-Accession Financial Regulation 555/2000 for the year **2000**, **1 million EUR** has been approved for the co-financing of Cyprus’ financial contribution in 2001 for the *Leonardo II, Socrates II* and *Youth* programmes.

For the programming of the year **2001**, **0,92 million EUR** is requested for the co-funding of Cyprus’ financial contribution in the *Leonardo II, Socrates II* and *Youth* Programmes for the year 2002 as well as the participation of Cyprus in the *European Environmental Agency*.

The total financial contribution of Cyprus participation for the year 2002, in the new phase of the *Leonardo, Socrates* and *Youth* Programmes, will be **1,8 mln EUR**, according to the relevant *Agreement between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus* from which **0,85 mln EUR** are proposed to be covered from pre-accession funds.

The total contribution of Cyprus to the European Environmental Agency for 2001, according to the draft *Agreement between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus*, is **0,09 mln EUR**, from which **0,07 mln EUR** are proposed to be covered from pre-accession funds.

**3. Detailed Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU Support</th>
<th>Contribution from the national budget</th>
<th>Total Cyprus financial contribution to the programme/agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M €</td>
<td>M €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation to the <em>Leonardo Programme</em></td>
<td>0,20</td>
<td>0,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation to the <em>Socrates Programme</em></td>
<td>0,35</td>
<td>0,35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation to the <em>Youth Programme</em></td>
<td>0,30</td>
<td>0,26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation to the <em>European Environmental Agency</em></td>
<td>0,07</td>
<td>0,02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0,92</td>
<td>0,96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The expenditure needed for the financial contribution is committed annually through a specific Expenditure vote of the Development Expenditure Category of the National Budget.

4. Implementation Arrangements

4.1 The National Fund is responsible for the EU assistance part of the financial contribution to be paid by Cyprus to participate in community programmes and agencies.

4.2 Upon signature of the Financing Memorandum the National Fund will request from the Commission the transfer of the full amount of the EU assistance indicated in section 3 above. These funds must be used to pay the EU part of the financial contribution to be paid by the country to participate in Community programmes and agencies.

4.3 The various Commission services responsible for the different programmes or agencies will send to the Mission of Cyprus to the EU a request for the total financial contribution for participation in a given programme or agency ("call for funds"). The National Fund should check the amount to be financed from EU pre-accession funds and then transfer that amount as per the call for funds to the Commission service responsible. When making the payment for each programme, the National Fund should quote the reference number indicated in the call for funds for the programme concerned, and send simultaneously a copy of the payment order to the relevant Commission service.

ANNEX

List of relevant Agreements between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus

IP.17.01.01

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ANNEX

List of relevant Agreements between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus:

(a) Agreement between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Cyprus in Community Programmes in the fields of training, education and youth, Brussels 11 January 2001 (Official Journal L29 of 2001).

(b) Draft Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cyprus concerning the participation of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Environment Agency and the European Information and Observation network, Signed in Brussels on 9 October 2000 (pending ratification).