COMMISSION DECISION
OF 2001

Establishing a global authorisation for a Technical and Administrative Assistance Facility (ATA)

The Commission of the European Communities,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3906/89 of 18 December 1989 on economic aid to certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1266/99 of 21 June 1999, and in particular Article 9 thereof,

Whereas Regulation N° 3906/89 lays down the rules and conditions for the granting of economic aid to certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe,

HEREBY DECIDES AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1**

The Programme described in the Annex to the present decision is hereby adopted.

**Article 2**

The maximum amount of Community assistance under this decision shall be € 1.308.247 to be financed through Budget line B7-030A.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission
FINANCING PROPOSAL

EXPENDITURE ON 'ASSISTANCE TECHNIQUE ET ADMINISTRATIVE' (ATA FACILITY) WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME TO THE PHARE COUNTRIES

1. Identification

1. Beneficiary: PHARE countries
2. Title of proposal: ATA Facility
3. Year: 2001
4. Cost: €1,308,247
5. Expiry Date: 
   Contracting:
   For Staff: 31.12.2001
   For training, missions, meetings, etc.: 31.12.2003
   Disbursement:
   For both DG’s: 31.12.2004
6. Budget line: B7-030 A.
7. Implementation: programming: DG Enlargement contracts and payments for staff: DG Administration contracts and payments for training, missions, meetings, IT and telecommunications: DG ELARG
8. Sector: AA
9. Group: M

2. Objectives

The ATA facility is intended to cover expenditures for the supply of technical and administrative support for the mutual benefit of the Commission and the partner countries.
3. Budgetary and legal basis

The present financing proposal will be financed from the budget line, B7-030 A, the purpose of which is described in the budgetary comments as follows:

‘Expenditure on temporary staff at headquarters is limited to EUR 1,670,000 which corresponds to an estimated 21 man-years. That estimate is based on an annual unit per cost per man-year of which 97 % is accounted for by remuneration for the staff concerned and 3 % by the cost of training, meetings, missions, IT and telecommunications relating to those staff members.’

The legal bases for such actions are:

- The Letter of Amendment No A (SEC 2000/1363 final) to the Preliminary Draft Budget
- The General Budget of the European Union for the year 2001

4. Description of activities

As indicated in the ‘Communication to the Commission on the reform of management of external assistance’ on 16 May 2000, the Commission has examined how it could develop an effective alternative to the technical assistance offices - Bureaux d’Assistance Techniques (BATs) - which presently operate in the Relex field.

The Commission now proposes to directly employ some of the staff resources under the direct responsibility of the Commission.

The Letter of Amendment No A (SEC 2000/1363 final) to the Preliminary Draft Budget, agreed as part of the adoption of the budget 2001 by the Budgetary Authority on 14 December 2000, contains proposals concerning the dismantling of Technical Assistance Offices (TAOs). The General Budget of the European Union for the financial year 2001 foresees, in its remarks concerning the budget line B7-030A, the possibility of using the appropriations to cover expenditure on temporary staff at headquarters.

The TAIEX Office (Technical Assistance Information Exchange Office) is composed of a unit within DG Enlargement and a Technical Assistance Office (TAO) operated by a framework contractor by means of a Phare multi-beneficiary programme. In respect of the TAO part of the TAIEX Office, the Letter of Amendment foresees the re-integration into the Commission unit of certain tasks hitherto executed by contractor’s staff. In order to give effect to this decision, the recruitment of sixteen additional auxiliary staff into the TAIEX Unit of DG Enlargement is foreseen.
This proposal is for a commitment of €1,308,247 to be made within the BA budget considering its characteristics and its budgetary comments. This commitment is based upon initial estimates of the costs of replacing some BAT staff by contract agents.

5. Definition of coverage

The definitions of technical and administrative assistance for the purpose of this financing proposal focus on the mutual benefit of the Commission and the beneficiaries.

6. Cost

The cost of this programme has been calculated on the basis of 16 post during a period of 12 months.

Commitment authorisation will be €1,308,247 of which 97% (€1,269,000) will relate to remuneration of 16 staff and 3% (€39,247) to training, meetings, missions, IT and telecommunications relating to these staff members.

Costs of the additional staff have been estimated on average salary and associated costs for auxiliary staff with the following ratios:

A grades: eight posts \( \text{€} 6,900 \times 12 \text{ month} \times 8 = \text{€} 662,400 \)

B grades: three posts \( \text{€} 5,000 \times 12 \text{ month} \times 3 = \text{€} 180,000 \)

C grades: five posts \( \text{€} 4,300 \times 12 \text{ month} \times 5 = \text{€} 258,000 \)

Reserve (*) \( \text{€} 14,050 \times 12 \text{ month} = \text{€} 168,600 \)

SUB TOTAL for staff \( \text{€} 1,269,000 \)

SUB TOTAL for training, meetings, etc. (3% x 1,308,247) \( \text{€} 39,247 \)

TOTAL \( \text{€} 1,308,247 \)

(*) As the posts have yet to be filled in it is not certain how much the amount needed will be. We have therefore created a reserve to compensate for possible shortcomings against the estimate at the time the post will be filled.

7. Implementation


The contracts and the payment related to the remuneration of staff will be made by DG ADMIN which will receive a subdelegation of signature from DG ELARG. The contracts
and payments related to training, meetings, missions, IT and telecommunications concerning these staff will be done by DG ELARG.

8. Audit

Operations financed under this programme will be subject to supervision by the relevant Commission services or any external auditors appointed by the Commission, and by the Court of Auditors.

9. Anti Fraud Measures

OLAF can conduct, if necessary, anti-fraud investigations in accordance with Regulation n° 1073/1999 of 25 May 1999.
Annex: Breakdown of costs

**Breakdown of costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakdown</th>
<th>€</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATA intramuros</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointments of BAT replacement staff</td>
<td>1,269,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total ATA intramuros</strong></td>
<td>1,269,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trainings, meetings etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total ATA intramuros</strong></td>
<td>39,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,308,247</td>
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