COMMISSION DECISION
OF 2003

Establishing a Phare Multi-Beneficiary Statistical Co-operation Programme in 2003,

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\(^1\), as last amended by Regulation (EC) N° 2500/2001\(^2\) and in particular Article 8 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation No 3906/89 lays down the rules and conditions for granting economic aid to certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

(2) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee on Aid for Economic Restructuring in certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe,

HAS DECIDED 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 shall be € 12.0 million to be financed through Budget line B7-030 in 2003.

Done in Brussels,

For the Commission

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\(^1\) OJ no L375 of 23/12/1989

\(^2\) OJ no L342 of 27/12/2001
FINANCING PROPOSAL 2003
STATISTICAL COOPERATION

1. IDENTIFICATION

COUNTRY: Phare Beneficiary Countries
PROGRAMME: Phare Statistical Co-operation
CRIS: 2003/005-623
YEAR: 2003
COST: € 12.0 million
IMPLEMENTING AUTHORITY: European Commission
_EXPIRY DATE: 31 December 2004 (contracting)
31 December 2005 (execution of contracts)
SECTOR Code: 163
GROUP: 16362
BUDGET LINE : B7-030
PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION: N. Wurm and C. Junker, Eurostat (in sub-delegation)

2. SUMMARY

2.1 The purpose of the Phare Statistical Co-operation Programme is to improve the provision and quality of official statistics relating to Phare beneficiary countries, particularly in the pre-accession context for Bulgaria and Romania and in the starting phase after accession for the other eight acceding Phare countries. Beneficiary countries will thus be Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

The current programme is based on a strategic document designing the way all the candidate countries have to go until 2006. This strategy is a common one in many elements for the acceding and the remaining candidate countries but surely also indicates the differences in parts of the objectives, activities and results for the two groups of countries. It has been developed in a thorough discussion process, together with all stakeholders for statistics: beneficiary countries, Member States, other donors and international organisations.

This programme represents the first programme based on the strategic document.

2.2 The objectives of this programme are:

- To take the process of integrating the Phare beneficiary countries’ National Statistical Offices (NSOs) into the European Statistical System (ESS) forward by strengthening the institutions of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and their co-ordinating role in the statistical system of the country;
• To continue to support sustainable capacity building of the NSOs for enabling them to better meet the needs of their customers by providing data that is accurate, reliable, timely and compiled in full compliance with the existing and new acquis communautaire;

• To intensify efforts to improve the quality of statistical information and to reinforce confidence in methods and professionalism, thus providing policy makers and the international Community with unquestioned statistical data.

2.3 The Programme will finance co-operation activities involving the agencies responsible for collecting and disseminating official statistics in Phare beneficiary countries, referred to here as the National Statistical Offices (NSOs). These activities will include participation in seminars and technical working groups, statistical advice, specific sectoral pilot projects in several key areas, training secondments and courses, dissemination of statistical data. After the implementation of this programme the countries involved will have achieved a greater extent of integration into the ESS. They will have improved their capacity to provide statistical data in accordance with the new acquis, especially in the domains where pilot projects are to be carried out. Finally, the quality of data and public confidence into them will be much higher than at present. Details of these activities and projects together with the outputs expected to be achieved are given in section 4 and Annex 2.

2.4 An independent assessment report on the Phare Multi-Beneficiary Statistics Programmes was carried out by the OMAS consortium in 1999/2000, and rated the Programmes as successful and well managed. Recommendations made in the report and corrective actions identified were already addressed in previous Programmes, and will be followed through into this Programme. A new external evaluation, especially for the recently completed large 1999 Programme has started recently.

2.5 The Commission will be responsible for the Programme, with Eurostat taking delegated management responsibility from DG Enlargement. Eurostat itself is a key actor in statistical co-operation and deploys for this purpose considerable resources of human and financial type, without any financial impact to this programme.

2.6 The entire emphasis for Phare beneficiary countries will be on the compliance with new and evolving acquis communautaire and on improving the quality of statistical data thus strengthening their administrative capacity. In particular the programme addresses three items:

• Joint implementation of sectoral projects corresponding to data production for new and/or changing acquis communautaire;

• Coping, through a set of appropriate sectoral projects, with the elements of data quality;

• Maintain the achievements of compliance already reached through a programme of statistical assistance;

2.7 This Programme is a direct result of the strategic reflections attached in annex 3. It represents the first phase of the four year plan 2003-2006. Building on achievements of previous programmes, this first phase of the 2003-2006 strategy for statistical co-operation provides for an increased budget due to the
challenging requirements stemming from the development in the statistical acquis communautaire and the quality aspects for statistical information.

2.8 The Programme has also to contribute to improve the statistical information which is necessary to meet the needs stemming from the various new policies adopted by the Council such as the social agenda, e-government and good governance.

3. **STRATEGY**

3.1 Reliable statistics are essential for managing and monitoring the effect and the status of implementation of Community policies. They are a key infrastructure component of a market economy, to support the design of relevant and well-targeted national and local policies aiming at promoting competitiveness, employment and social progress and sustainability. Statistics, which are credible and trusted by citizens and the media, give transparency to democratic processes.

3.2 The Phare Programme has supported the development of statistics since 1990, initially through the transfer of the know-how through the provision of equipment. Since several years programmes have been broadened to ensure that relevant and timely data is available to support the enlargement process, and to assist Phare beneficiary countries in their efforts to comply with the statistical requirements of membership. Multi-beneficiary programmes result from the common interest of NSOs in acquiring standard European skills and methodologies.

3.3 During this period, countries made significant progress in developing their capacity to meet the statistical needs of the market economy in accordance with EU standards. Phare interventions have improved the foundation for the production of statistical data, by providing computing infrastructure, enabling the introduction of European classification systems, and introducing appropriate survey methods for data collection including sampling. In areas dealt with already through sectoral projects Eurostat units have assumed a routine data collection from candidate countries in parallel to Member States. These data is published regularly and also available online in Eurostat databases.

3.4 A new Strategy Paper titled “Strategy for statistical co-operation with Accessing and Candidate Countries 2003 - 2006” was developed in early 2003, involving all the stakeholders into its discussion and final design. This paper analyses remaining problems and determines objectives for a new four year period with a particular emphasise on the full integration of the acceding countries into the ESS. The document is attached to this Financing Proposal in annex 3.

3.5 The main issue of the strategy document is its independence from the financing source. It is meant to provide an overall comprehensive framework, to which all efforts can contribute: own funds, other programmes, other donors, etc. The independence of the programme from its financing is required due to the fact that different candidate countries will have different funding sources, especially after the 1st May 2004. This common approach will allow for large economies of scale. This programme shall finance the participation of Phare beneficiary countries only.
3.6 This Programme represents the first phase of the four year plan 2003-2006. Building on achievements from previous programmes, this first phase provides for an increased budget due to the challenging requirements stemming from the development in the statistical acquis communautaire and the quality aspects for statistical information.

3.7 Continued support for statistical co-operation is necessary to support the integration of the candidate countries into the European Statistical System and to introduce more widely quality aspects into the statistical systems.

3.8 The multi-country approach is the most appropriate one for statistical co-operation for reasons of economies of scale, synergy and co-ordination effects, the timing aspect and better co-ordination of all the stakeholders. Finally, previous programmes have proved being very successful and result oriented using the multi-country approach. Moreover, the multi-beneficiary programme for statistics has many characteristics of a Community Programme, can thus not be replaced by a set of national programmes. However, existing national Phare programmes for the acceding countries and new ones for the remaining candidate countries will complement the activities implemented within the multi-beneficiary programme.

3.9 The multi-beneficiary programme in statistics has achieved visible results. Apart from the regular data collection mentioned above, data were provided to the statistical annexes of the Regular Progress Reports, information leaflets with key data for all European Council meetings were produced, statistical data were supplied to the negotiations and geographical information produced. In a number of statistical areas nowadays a sustainable and comparable data production is recorded. This production is taking place without any further Phare support and is thus fully in line with general objectives of the Phare programme.

4. Objectives and description

4.1 The objectives of the 2003 programme are in line with the long term strategic approaches as laid down in the “Strategy for statistical co-operation with the acceding and candidate countries for the period 2003-2006”. They can be summarised as the Programme’s overall objectives as follows:

1. To take the process of integrating the Phare beneficiary countries’ NSOs into the European Statistical System forward by strengthening the institutions of the NSOs and their co-ordinating role in the statistical system of the country;

2. To continue to support sustainable capacity building of the NSOs for enabling them to better meet the needs of their customers by providing data that is accurate, reliable, timely and compiled in full compliance with the existing and new acquis communautaire;

3. To intensify efforts to improve the quality of statistical information and to reinforce confidence in methods and professionalism, thus providing policy makers and the international Community with unquestioned statistical data.

Priority areas of work should correspond to areas of weakness, including those identified within recent assessment reports and data availability studies as well as during previous programme implementation.
4.2 To meet these objectives, the **immediate objectives** for the 2003 Programme will be to:

1. Improve the production, collection and dissemination of high quality statistics comparable with Community methods in key areas mainly related to new acquis (see project descriptions in annex 2);

2. Improve the ability of candidate countries to programme their activities in relation to the integration into the ESS.

4.3 This Phare Statistical Cooperation Programme is based on a multi-annual indicative approach. It is the first of four annual programmes (2003-2006), and will finance statistical assistance and training activities in priority sectors, and specific sectoral projects (including projects of a pilot nature). It will aim to achieve the following specific **results**:

- Increased sustainable capacity to produce statistics in areas covered by newly adopted acquis, including the publication and dissemination of these statistics.

- Increased coverage of high quality data in Eurostat’s databases.

- Increased level of integration into the European Statistical System and its planning structures.

4.4 The activities to be undertaken to **increase the capacity to produce comparable data** and disseminate statistics in specific areas will be sectoral projects of a pilot nature. These projects will normally include an assessment of the state of art in the area concerned with special emphasis on the quality, specific statistical assistance and training to assist countries develop appropriate techniques, and publication and dissemination of results. In all cases they are used to start applying the EU standards in areas of newly adopted acquis or to improve the quality of existing statistical information. Where appropriate, pilot surveys will be used to collect data. Projects will employ common methodology in all Phare beneficiary countries and conform to EU standards. They will produce results in the form of useful statistics in priority sectors within a relatively short time period (months rather than years). The areas chosen are in direct relation with mainly newly adopted acquis communautaire and support general EC policies and have strong links to ongoing negotiations for Bulgaria and Romania.

4.5 Pilot projects are proposed by Eurostat, working closely with the other services of the Commission, according to the priority areas identified by Eurostat’s subject matter units. Project proposals are presented to the beneficiary countries in order to receive their commitment for participation. Criteria for selection are their relevance to the newly adopted or changed acquis, quality of existing statistics, and the relationship to the *acquis communautaire*. For the 2003 Programme, projects shall cover the following areas (see annex 2 for an overview and detailed descriptions), although a flexible approach will be adopted to accommodate changing circumstances and priorities. Especially in the areas of macro-economic statistics, business statistics and social statistics the need for data as required through the EU Action Plan should be taken in due account.
Macro-economic statistics

- Assessment of GNI inventories
- Inventory on constant price estimates
- Capital formation and Capital stock
- Supply-Use Tables/Input-Output Tables (SUT/IOT)
- Sector Accounts
- Harmonised Consumer Price Index (HICP)
- Purchasing Power Parities (PPP)
- Public Finance Statistics for the EDP

External trade and INTRASTAT

Business statistics

- Transport statistics
- Short-Term statistics
- PRODCOM
- Inward Statistics on Foreign Affiliates (FATS)

Social statistics

- Labour market policy statistics
- Job vacancies survey
- Labour Force Survey
- Vocational training survey
- Educational finance statistics
- Health and disability statistics
- Health care labour accounts

Agriculture, environment and regional statistics

- Production and consumption of animal products
- LUCAS
- Environmental accounting
- Early estimates on land area and crop production
- Agriculture accounts and prices
- Local territorial units

4.6 Appropriate activities to increase the level of high quality data in Eurostat’s databases and to integrate the NSOs into the ESS will normally be selected, according to the annual work programmes of participating institutions, by
Eurostat or the partner institutions from the following menu. Other types of activities may be used on an exceptional basis.

- **Measures of integration into the ESS** by participating in seminars, Working Groups, Task Forces and other meetings. Participation in the above activities is of particular importance. Especially the role of Task Forces is increasing. Participation in seminars, Working Groups and Task Forces allows those involved developing new statistics and providing substantial input into this. Participants will have the opportunity to express their opinion in drafting the new *acquis*, provide further and more solid integration into the ESS, keep pace with developments in different fields of statistics, acquire in-depth knowledge, participate in the preparation of new surveys and elaboration of new statistics. All these elements are a substantial input into further and full integration into the ESS.

- **Formal training and in-country training**. Statistics is an area that comprises many different fields. Harmonisation, need for comparability, good knowledge and information about the new methods and phenomena are particularly important for the production of good quality statistics. Therefore, training and life-long learning in statistics are indispensable to meet the current challenges and perform future tasks. Especially needed is training in the area of new topics, new *acquis*, advanced methods, information society, globalisation, adaptation of the statistical systems to the development of the ESS.

- **Targeted statistical assistance in strategic management and planning**. An effective planning of work, proper priority setting, taking into account the needs of customer and process development are particularly essential. Well-defined priorities and strategies are highly important. Therefore assistance in this area is needed to gather knowledge of the best practices in developing strategy plans and total quality management. Here also benchmarking exercises can be added for which some external input is needed.

- **Secondments of trainees (traineeships)**. This is a form of training when specialists from a national statistical office are seconded to Eurostat or a Member State NSI to study more thoroughly European statistical systems. The duration of the traineeship may last from 3 months to 12 months. The traineeship is necessary to get more information on the aspects of statistics in some specific theme and on the EU requirements. The participation in the preparation of documents for meetings, inventories of existing data, methodological papers and publications enables the trainees to obtain a better overview of the functioning of the whole statistical system and in-depth knowledge of the scope and definitions of different areas of statistics.

- **Study visits and consultancies**. Study visits and consultancies are necessary mainly for the remaining candidate countries. Study visits and consultancies are organised at the request of and considering the specific needs of the countries concerned. The study visits take place in Member States and, if appropriate, in the acceding countries usually for one or two specialists from the beneficiary country. Consultancies are delivered by experts from Member States or the acceding countries. Study visits aim at rendering assistance in the fields where specific problems and shortcomings exist for a single country. During study visits and consultancies weaknesses and hindrances of
beneficiary countries can be discussed in more detail and solutions to the problems found.

- **Support to data collection.** Data collection will be an important element of adopting evolving acquis and implementing new acquis. The mechanism used to support this data collection will have many similarities with the system of financial support applied for the current Member States. It will comprise financial contributions to the NSOs of the Phare beneficiary countries in order to carry out statistical surveys and collect data in those areas where this is required by evolving or new acquis and only in these areas. No support will be given to routine operations.

- **Management training.** Training is needed in planning mechanisms, management practices, organisational structures and programme monitoring approaches to enable the development of the best strategy, define a statistical infrastructure, properly handle user responsiveness and to implement new initiatives. Training consists in syndicate exercises, learning reviews and joint discussions. State-of-the-art knowledge on the planning theories and practices, strategic planning models, business model projects, value chain, risk management, feasibility analysis, evaluation and audit will enable well-balanced management and coherent planning, improvement of the overall performance, measurement of the programme and product effectiveness and policy compliance. Management training is necessary to properly define the mission and vision of statistical offices.

- **Expertise to integrate data into Eurostat’s databases.** Assistance is needed in expertise to integrate data into Eurostat’s databases to ensure the quality and comparability of data.

- **Evaluation of compliance and programme support:** This function remains extremely important, as it will be at the same time a permanent evaluation of the results achieved by the co-operation programmes. The function shall be integrated into general assistance and comprise: continuous update of a compliance database (acquis and compliance situation), information and reporting about the programme. All available information sources are to be used including the knowledge gained in sectoral projects and statistical assistance.

4.7 Like pilot projects, priorities for the use of the above statistical assistance activities will be based on their relevance to the *acquis communautaire*. Each country will constantly update a medium term strategic plan, outlining their plans to adopt the *acquis* in statistics. From these plans, annual work plans outlining specific objectives and tasks to be accomplished each year, consistent with medium term strategies, will be provided for discussion and approval by Eurostat prior to the use of these funds.

4.7 At least annual progress reports, outlining the implementation of the *acquis communautaire*, and reviewing achievements in the context of each annual plan, will be delivered by each NSO to Eurostat.
5. **BUDGET**

5.1 The Phare contribution to the Statistics Programme will be € 12.0 million for 2003. The programme will expire on 31 December 2004 for commitment and on 31 December 2005 for execution of contracts. An indicative timetable, with a breakdown of activities, is given in the project descriptions in annex 2.

5.2 Allocations for 2003 are planned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pilot and sectoral project activities</td>
<td>8.336 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical assistance activities including compliance monitoring</td>
<td>3.664 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.00 M</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Details on planned activities are given in annex 2.

Co-financing for the purely Institution Building programme is provided by the beneficiaries bearing certain infrastructure and operational implementation costs, through financing the human and other resources, required for the effective and efficient absorption of Phare assistance.

5.3 The programme will be split into two components. A part of it will be awarded as grants to the National Statistical Offices of Phare candidate countries and Member States for providing statistical assistance. These grants are expected to come into force in April 2004 and to expire in December 2005. For the part on pilot projects a contract will be awarded via a tender procedure. The contract will come into force in April 2004 and expire in 31 December 2005.

5.4 The programme is closely co-ordinated with the efforts of other donors in the area to avoid duplication and ensure proper co-ordination.

5.5 The involvement of EFTA in the Phare Statistical Programme is steadily decreasing. Some financial contribution from the EFTA Secretariat is provided for very specific activities requiring the involvement of EFTA experts for the reason that EFTA remains strongly interested in contributing to the development and integration of the candidate countries into the European Statistical System.

6. **IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

6.1 The programme will be implemented by the European Commission in accordance with the Financial Regulation (centralised implementation)

6.2 The programme will be sub delegated to Eurostat for implementation. Eurostat will be responsible for launching tenders, call for proposals, signing direct (grant) agreements and payments.

The Management Group for Statistical Co-operation MGSC, where the management of each NSO meet normally once or twice a year with Eurostat, will act as a forum for discussing issues relating to statistical cooperation between the partner candidate countries and the Commission.
6.3 The part of the programme concerning sectoral pilot projects will be implemented via one or more contracts selected and awarded according to the procedures and standard documents defined and most recently published by the European Commission for the implementation of External Actions.

6.4 All contracts must be concluded by 31 December 2004.

6.5 Execution of all contracts must end by 31 December 2005. Budgetary commitments, which have not given rise to payments during three years counted from the date of the legal commitment will be de-committed.

6.6 Any proven irregularity or fraud\(^3\) discovered at any time during the implementation of the programme will lead to the recovery of funds by the Commission.

If the implementation of a measure appears not to justify either a part or the whole of the assistance allocated, the Commission is to conduct an appropriate examination of the case, in particular requesting the beneficiary country to submit its comments within a specified period of time and to correct any irregularity.

Following the examination referred to in the previous paragraph, the Commission may reduce, suspend or cancel assistance in respect of the measures concerned if the examination reveals irregularity, an improper combination of funds or a failure to comply with one of the conditions in the financing proposal and in particular any significant change affecting the nature or conditions of implementation of the measure for which the Commission’s approval has not been sought. Any reduction or cancellation of the assistance is to give rise to recovery of the sums paid.

Where the Commission considers that an irregularity has not been corrected or that all or part of an operation does not justify either all or part of the assistance granted to it, the Commission is to conduct a suitable examination of the case and request the beneficiary country to submit its comments within a specified period. After the examination, if the beneficiary country has undertaken no corrective measures, the Commission may:

(a) reduce or cancel any advance;
(b) cancel all or part of the assistance granted to the measure.

The Commission is to determine the size of a correction taking into account the nature of the irregularity and the extent of any failures in the management and control systems.

Any funds not used by the expiry date of the programme will be recovered by the Commission.

Notwithstanding the recovery of unused and ineligible funds after expiry of the Financing Proposal, a complementary recovery order may be issued after the final audit of the reliability and consistency of contracts and disbursements as well as their compliance with the provisions of the Financing Proposal has been carried out, taking into account the independent opinion of the final audit.

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\(^3\) As defined under number 8a (Audit and Anti-fraud Measures by the Candidate Countries) of this document
6.7 In principle, all bank accounts will be interest bearing. Interest will be reported
to the European Commission. If the Commission so decides, on the basis of a
proposal from the beneficiary, interest may be reinvested in the Programme.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

7.1 The Commission services in charge of implementation of the programme
(Eurostat) shall:
- Monitor the implementation of the programme on the basis of regular reports
  prepared by the contractors;
- Organise assessment and evaluation reviews to provide better insight into the
  performance of contractors and the impact of the activities as appropriate;
- Sign contracts with independent experts, if appropriate, to follow the
  progress of the programme and its components and carry out an ex-post
  evaluation after completion of the programme or parts thereof.

7.2 In order to facilitate these activities, a detailed set of indicators of achievement
will be defined according to the objectives and targets of the Programme (see
Log Frame Matrix in Annex 1 and project fiches in Annex 2).

7.3 In-depth monitoring of the success of this programme will be provided through
the yearly compliance progress reports for candidate countries, which constitute
the ultimate success factor of the efforts deployed.

7.4 The information gained through the various evaluation mechanisms of Eurostat
will enhance the public authority task of the Commission, Eurostat for the
statistical part of the acquis, to report at least yearly upon the status of
compliance of candidates with respect to the acquis communautaire.

8. Audit and Anti-Fraud Measures

a) By the Candidate Countries

Beneficiary countries shall ensure investigation and satisfactory treatment of suspected
and actual cases of fraud and irregularity following national or Community controls.

Irregularity shall mean any infringement of a provision of Community law, this
Financing Proposal or ensuing contracts or resulting from an act or omission by an
economic operator, which has, or would have, the effect of prejudicing the general
budget of the Communities or budgets managed by them, either by reducing or losing
revenue accruing from own resources collected directly on behalf of the Communities,
or by an unjustified item of expenditure.

Fraud shall mean any intentional act or omission relating to:

(i) the use or presentation of false, incorrect or incomplete statements or documents,
which has as its effect the misappropriation or wrongful retention of funds from the
general budget of the European Communities or budgets managed by, or on behalf of,
the European Communities,
(ii) non-disclosure of information in violation of a specific obligation, with the same effect,

(iii) the misapplication of such funds for purposes other than those for which they are originally granted.

The national authorities shall ensure the functioning of a control and reporting mechanism equivalent to the one foreseen in Commission Regulation 1681/94\(^\text{15}\).

In particular, all suspected and actual cases of fraud and irregularity as well as all measures related thereto taken by the national authority must be reported to the Commission services without delay. Should there be no suspected or actual cases of fraud and irregularity to report, the beneficiary country shall inform the Commission of this fact at the end of each quarter.

b) By the Commission

All contracts pursuant to the implementation of the programme are subject to supervision and financial control by the Commission (including the European Anti-fraud Office) and audits by the Court of Auditors.

In order to ensure efficient protection of the financial interests of the Community, the Commission may conduct on-the-spot checks and inspections in accordance with the procedures foreseen in Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No. 2185/96\(^\text{14}\).

9. Visibility and Publicity

The Programme Authorising Officer will be responsible for ensuring that the necessary measures are taken to ensure appropriate publicity for all activities financed from the programme.

10. Special Conditions

10.1 NSOs in the countries participating in the Statistics Programme shall ensure that appropriate staff, budgetary provisions and support facilities necessary for the implementation of the programme are provided. Furthermore appropriate institutional (and legislative) measures are to be taken.

10.2 The Governments of the countries concerned accept the responsibility to carry out the projects specified under the programme to a good end.

10.3 In those programme components in which the Community grant contributes to the financing of revenue-generating activities, the Commission shall determine, in conjunction with the authorities of the recipient countries, specific arrangements for financing which could include co-financing by the project revenues of reimbursement of the initial grant.

\(^{15}\) OJ L 253; 7.10.00; p. 5-14
\(^{14}\) OJ L 292; 15.11.1996; p. 2-5