FINANCING MEMORANDUM

The European Commission, hereinafter referred to as "THE COMMISSION", acting for and on behalf of the European Community, hereinafter referred to as "THE COMMUNITY" on the one part, and

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia, hereinafter referred to as "THE RECIPIENT" on the other part,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

The measure referred to in Article I below shall be executed and financed out of the budget resources of THE COMMUNITY in accordance with the provisions set out in this Memorandum. The technical, legal, and administrative framework within which the measure referred to in Article I below shall be implemented is set out in the General Conditions annexed to the Framework Agreement of 7th October 1992 between THE COMMISSION and THE RECIPIENT, and supplemented by the terms of this Memorandum and the Special Provisions annexed hereto.

ARTICLE 1 - NATURE AND SUBJECT

As part of its aid programme, THE COMMUNITY shall contribute, by way of grant, towards the financing of the following MEASURE:

Programme number: SI.00.09.
Title: 2000 Cross-Border Co-operation Programme between Austria and Slovenia
Duration: Until 15 December 2002

ARTICLE 2 - COMMITMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

The financial contribution of THE COMMUNITY is fixed at a maximum of € 5 million hereinafter referred to as "THE EC GRANT".

ARTICLE 3 - DURATION AND EXPIRY

For the present MEASURE, THE EC GRANT is hereby available for contracting until 15 December 2002 subject to the provisions of this Memorandum. All contracts must be signed by this date. Any balance of funds of the EC GRANT, which have not been contracted by this date, shall be cancelled. The deadline for disbursement of THE EC GRANT is 15 December 2003. All disbursements must be completed by the deadline for disbursement. THE COMMISSION may however, in exceptional circumstances, agree to an appropriate extension of the contracting period or of the disbursement period, should this be requested in due time and properly justified by THE RECIPIENT. This Memorandum shall expire at the expiry of the disbursement period of the EC GRANT. All the funds, which have not been disbursed, shall be returned to the Commission.

ARTICLE 4 - ADDRESSES

Correspondence relating to the execution of THE MEASURE, stating THE MEASURE'S number and title, shall be addressed to the following:
for the COMMUNITY:

The Delegation of the European Commission in Ljubljana
Trg Republike, 3, XI.
1000 Ljubljana
SLOVENIA
Telephone: (386-1) 4251303
Fax: (386-1) 4252085

for THE RECIPIENT:

Mr Igor Bavčar
Minister for European Affairs
Government Office for European Affairs
Šubičeva 11
1000 Ljubljana
SLOVENIA

ARTICLE 5 - NUMBER OF ORIGINALS

This Memorandum is drawn up in duplicate in the English language.

ARTICLE 6 - ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date on which it has been signed by both parties. No expenditure incurred before this date is eligible for the EC GRANT.

The Annexes shall be deemed an integral part of this Memorandum.

Done at Ljubljana
Date 22.12.2000

for THE RECIPIENT

Mr Eric van der Linden
Head of European Commission
Delegation to the Republic of Slovenia

for THE COMMUNITY

Annex 1 Framework Agreement (Annex A+B)
Annex 2 Special Provisions (Annex C)
Annex 3 Visibility and Publicity
ANNEX C SPECIAL PROVISIONS

1. OBJECTIVES, DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONALITY

The conclusions of the November 1998 Report of the Commission on the progress made by Slovenia towards accession ("Regular Report") stressed the slow pace of preparations, particularly as far as priority areas for reform in the AP are concerned, and the limited progress made with regard to the necessary reinforcement of the institutional and administrative capacity of the country.

However, significant progress has been made since the first progress report has been issued. The Regular Report of October 1999 indicated that Slovenia accelerated its overall legislative approximation effort and demonstrated impressive progress across most of the Acquis. Furthermore, it indicated, that Slovenia:

• fulfils the Copenhagen political criteria;
• can be regarded as a functioning market economy;
• has maintained macroeconomics stability;
• has followed a gradual approach to structural reform;
• has met most of its short term Accession Partnership priorities.

All efforts will be made to maintain this positive trend and to meet the short and medium-term priorities of the Accession Partnership in 2000. The 2000 Phare CBC programme will in this context focus on one objective in regard to alignment with the Acquis, and its effective implementation and enforcement:

• Objective Support to economic cohesion

This objective aims at assisting Slovenia in preparing for the community instruments of economic cohesion.

Project 1: Jesenice business zone

(SL 0009.01)

The Wider Objectives of this project are in the frame of Economic and spatial regeneration of the area of upper Gorenjska, which includes:

• To build on previous Phare-funded phases of the project with the objective of economic and spatial regeneration of Upper Gorenjska region, and of Jesenice in particular;
• To create a business zone in Jesenice, in order to encourage economic regeneration of the town, and create jobs for inhabitants throughout the region;
• To improve the quality of life in Jesenice through the restitution of derelict and contaminated land in Jesenice into parkland and small business units.

The area of Jesenice and its surroundings is known as a lagging behind area within Gorenjska statistical region, facing with large number of ecological and social problems. The aim of the project is therefore to reduce disparities in the economic development of the area and on the long-term to improve the environment. The establishment of the business zone also foster new investments, new companies, new jobs, to increase value added and finally to increase GDP in the region.

Immediate Objective:
• To create new road and rail access routes to the planned business zone, thus avoiding the town centre
• To provide the area planned for business zone with the necessary municipal infrastructure facilities
• To prepare individual sites within the proposed business zone, which will accommodate new business units.
• To support the Upper Gorenjska Sub-Regional Development Agency (based in Jesenice) in its marketing programme to encourage local entrepreneurs and new inward investment.

In line with the above development objective of the NPAA, AP and JPD, the Phare CBC SI/A Jesenice business zone will provide support to economic development, ecological problems and social problems that will have a direct cross-border impact and is complementary to the Interreg III in respect to the priorities:

• Sustainable spatial development;
• Economic cohesion, measure business development (revitalising existing industrial sites, halls and plants, establishing and upgrading infrastructure for new business and investments by business zones, parks).

The economic and spatial regeneration of Jesenice is being carried out in close consultation with the Villach Region on the Austrian side of the border, where the supporting infrastructure for encouraging business development is well established. It is therefore anticipated that implementation of this project will be a positive stimulus to the development of cross border business networks.

*Conditionalities:*

Where required, according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC as amended by 87/11/EC), the project will be assessed according to this Directive;
For each of the projects- confirmation that no Environmentally Sensitive Areas are affected.

*Milestones:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of Technical Specification and Building Permits</td>
<td>April - December 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tender Dossier</td>
<td>January - March 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tendering</td>
<td>March - September 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting</td>
<td>September - December 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure building</td>
<td>January - December 2003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Slovene co-financing is EUR 1,200,000 (approximately 32%).*

**Project 2:** “EMERGING EU” Supporting activities to the regional development and economic co-operation in the border area Slovenia – Austria (SL0009.02)

*The Wider Development Objectives* are:

• Increase the co-operation between regional development institutions in the frame of cross-border region seen as one single unit,
• Restructuring of companies, adjusting to the Single Market rules and increasing the internationalisation of businesses in border regions;

*Immediate objectives:*
• Protect and refurbish building (ex prison) of cultural heritage value and construction of infrastructure and education/training facilities for regional institutions, increasing its value by introducing support services for SME and HRD in the frame of cross-border co-operation;
• Preparation of companies for entering the single market and increasing the cross-border co-operation between the companies;
• Development of training programmes for employed and unemployed people to meet the needs of potential new businesses;
• Development of a comprehensive plan for reactivation and alternative use of derelict industrial sites and future vacant border facilities; development of promotional plan with incentives for attracting new investments.

According to the Joint Interreg III - Phare CBC Programming Document Austria-Slovenia 2000-2006 the project will cover topics on economic cohesion, human resources and regional co-operation. Furthermore, the transfers of know-how within the preparation of SMEs on Single European Market strengthening the CBC impact and will lead to more comprehensive border region.

Conditionalities:

Where required, according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC as amended by 87/11/EC), the project will be assessed according to this Directive;
For each of the projects confirmation that no Environmentally Sensitive Areas are affected.

Milestones:

- Preparation of TOR (services)  February 2001
- Tender Dossier (works)  February 2001
- Tendering  March 2001
- Contracting  June 2001
- Infrastructure building  July - November 2002
- Services  July 2001 - June 2002

*The Slovene co-financing is EUR 2,270,000 (approximately 60%).*

**Project 3: Small Project Fund (SPF) (SL0009.03)**

The ultimate objective is to enhance the capacity of the local and regional authorities to develop and implement projects. co-financed by Phare and by local beneficiaries, the Small Project Fund will support small-scale "people-to-people" and local development activities (no infrastructure actions) of a Cross Border nature, involving local people from the region through a flexible founding instrument. Other objectives of the SPF are:

• encouragement and support for the creation of sustainable co-operation networks between local and regional actors,
• decentralisation of responsibilities and decision-making to local and regional actors;
• assistance with the development of the capability and capacity of local organisation to develop and implement project within the border region through development of innovative CBC projects.
Among the eligible actions for the SPF are: cultural exchanges, local democracy, human resources, spatial planning and development studies, economic and tourism, management and technical assistance.

The SPF component is supporting to the regional development structures. One of the sub-region's development structures will host the Secretariat responsible for running the SPF. Technical Assistance will be provided as needed to support the efficient implementation of the measure. The project is related to the activities envisaged in the Austrian INTERREG III Programmes.

The project will respect the guidelines for the SPF as well as specific guidelines approved by the Delegation.

The Phare contribution may finance indirect (overhead) costs up to 7% of total amount of direct eligible costs.

**Conditionalities:**

Where required, according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EEC as amended by 87/11/EC), the project will be assessed according to this Directive;

For each of the projects confirmation that no Environmentally Sensitive Areas are affected.

**Milestones:**

Completion and approval of tendering documents: 2nd quarter of 2001
Start of tendering: 2nd quarter of 2001
Start of project activity: 4th quarter of 2001
Project completion: 4th quarter of 2003

*The Slovene co-financing is EUR 340,000 (approximately 25%).*

2. **BUDGET (in EUR):**

The following table specifies the EU contribution as well as national and other co-finance to the programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Number</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>SI/AU CBC 2000 (EUR)</th>
<th>PHARE</th>
<th>National Co-financing</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>% National Co-financing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Institution Building</td>
<td>Investment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.01</td>
<td>Jesenice Business Zone</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>3,700,000</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.01.01</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.02</td>
<td>Emerging EU</td>
<td>330,000</td>
<td>1,170,000</td>
<td>2,270,000</td>
<td>3,770,000</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.02.01</td>
<td>Works 1 – Maribor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.02.02</td>
<td>Works 2 – Kranj</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.02.03</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.03</td>
<td>Small Projects Fund</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>340,000</td>
<td>1,340,000</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL0009.03.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,330,000</td>
<td>3,670,000</td>
<td>3,810,000</td>
<td>8,810,000</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Slovene co-financing is approximately 43% of the total amount.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The programme will be managed in accordance with the Phare Decentralised Implementation System (DIS) procedures. The National Aid Co-ordinator (NAC) will have overall responsibility for programming, monitoring and implementation of Phare programmes.

The National Fund (NF) in the Ministry of Finance, headed by the National Authorising Officer (NAO), will supervise the financial management of the Programme, and will be responsible for reporting to the European Commission. Appropriate financial control shall be carried out by the competent National Control Authority with respect to the implementation of the programme.

The Commission will transfer funds to the NF in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Commission and the Government of Slovenia on 23 December 1998. Funds will be transferred following requests from the NAO. A payment of up to 20% of the funds to be managed locally will be transferred to the NF following signature of the Financing Memorandum and the Financing Agreement (FA) between the NF and the Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU). The provisions foreseen in articles 2 and 13 of the MoU on the NF must also be met. Furthermore, the NAO must submit to the Commission the designation of the PAO and a description of the system put in place, highlighting the flow of information between the NF and the CFCU and the manner in which the payment function will be carried out.

Four replenishments will be made of up to 20% of the funds to be managed locally or the full balance of the budget whichever is the lesser amount. The first replenishment will be triggered when 10% of the budget has been disbursed by the CFCU. The second replenishment may be requested when 30% of the total budget in force has been disbursed. The trigger point for the third replenishment is 50%, and for the final fourth instalment when 70% is disbursed. Save for express prior authorisation from the Commission HQ, no replenishment request may be made if the aggregate of the funds deposited in the NF and the IA exceeds 10% of the total budget in force of the commitment. Exceptionally the NAO may request an advance payment of more than 20% in accordance with the procedures laid down in the aforesaid Memorandum of Understanding.

The National Fund will transfer funds to the CFCU in accordance with Financing Agreement (FA) signed between the NF and the CFCU. The FA will be endorsed in advance by the European Commission. In cases where the NF is itself the paying agent for the CFCU, there will be no transfer of funds from the NF to the CFCU. The CFCU must be headed by a Programme Authorising Officer (PAO) appointed by the NAO after consultation with the NAC. The PAO will be responsible for all the operations carried out by the CFCU.

Additionally, the following ministries and institutions will play an important technical role:

- **Regional Development:** National Agency for Regional Development, under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Relations and Development.
- **Economic cohesion:** Ministry of Economic Affairs
  - Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs
  - Ministry of Small Enterprises and Tourism
  - Regional Development Agencies
Local authorities

A separate bank account, denominated in EURO will be opened and managed by the NF in a separate accounting system in the Central Bank. 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 NAO, interest may be reinvested in the Programme. The same procedures will apply to any funds transferred to the CFCU.

The NAO and the PAO will ensure that all contracts are to be prepared in accordance with the procedures set out in the DIS Manual.

The JSPF will operate on the basis of specific guidelines approved by the Commission Delegation and based on the General SPF guidelines.

All contracts must be concluded by 15 December 2002.
All disbursements must be made by 15 December 2003.

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

For those contracts with funds retained for a warranty period extending beyond the end of the disbursement period of the programme, the overall total of funds related to those contracts, as calculated by the PAO and established by the Commission, will be paid to the Implementing Agency before the official closure of the programme.

The Implementing Agency assumes full responsibility of depositing the funds until final payment is due and for ensuring that said funds will only be used to make payments related to the retention clauses. The Implementing Agency further assumes full responsibility towards the contractors for fulfilling the obligations related to the retention clauses. The implementing Agency further assumes full responsibility towards the contractors for fulfilling the obligations related to the retention clauses. Interests accrued on the funds deposited will be paid to the Commission after final payment to the contractors. Funds not paid out to the contractors after final payments have been settled shall be reimbursed to the Commission. An overview of the use of funds deposited on warranty accounts - and notably of the payments made out of them - and of interests accrued will annually be provided by the NAO to the Commission.

For all investment projects an environmental impact assessment will be carried out which meets the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 85/337/CEE as amended by directive 97/11/EC, or a procedure accepted by the Commission as being similar if the Directive has not yet been transposed into national legislation.

4. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

Phare Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) will be established. It will include the NAO, the NAC and the Commission. The JMC will meet at least once a year to review all Phare funded programmes in order to assess their progress towards meeting the objectives set out in Financing Memoranda and the Accession Partnership. The JMC may recommend a change of priorities and/or the re-allocation of Phare funds.

In accordance with the CBC Programme Commission Regulation (No 2760/98), the JMC will be assisted by the Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC), acting as Monitoring Sub-
Committees (MSC) and will include the NAC, the PAO of the CFCU and Commission Services. The MSC will review in detail the progress of each programme, including its components and contracts, on the basis of regular Monitoring and Assessment reports produced with the assistance of an external consultant (in accordance with the provisions of the DIS Manual), and will put forward recommendations on aspects of management and design, ensuring these are implemented. The MSC will report to the JMC, to which it will submit overall detailed reports on all Phare financed programmes.

5. **AUDIT AND EVALUATION**

The accounts and operations of the projects on the basis of this programme may be checked at the Commission’s discretion by an outside auditor contracted by the Commission without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Commission and the Court of Auditors as referred to in the General Conditions relating to the Financing Memorandum attached to the Framework Agreement.

The Commission Services shall ensure that an ex-post evaluation is carried out after completion of the Programme.

6. **VISIBILITY / PUBLICITY**

The appropriate 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. This will be done in close liaison with the Commission Delegation. Further details are contained in the 'Visibility/Publicity" Annex 3.

7. **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

In the event that agreed commitments are not met for reasons which are within the control of the Government of Slovenia, the Commission may review the programme with a view, at the Commission’s discretion, to cancelling all or part of it and/or to reallocate unused funds for other purposes consistent with the objectives of the Phare programme.
ANNEX 3

Visibility/Publicity Annex

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY FOR THE PHARE PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1. Objective and scope

Information and publicity measures concerning assistance from the European Community Phare Programme are intended to increase public awareness and transparency of EU action and to create a consistent image of the measures concerned in all applicant countries. Information and publicity shall concern measures receiving a contribution from the Phare Programme.

2. General principles

The appropriate Programme Authorising Officer in charge of the implementation of Financing Memoranda, and other forms of assistance shall be responsible for publicity on the spot. Publicity shall be carried out in cooperation with the EC Delegations, which shall be informed of measures taken for this purpose.

The competent national and regional authorities shall take all the appropriate administrative steps to ensure the effective application of these arrangements and to collaborate with the EC Delegations on the spot.

The information and publicity measures described below are based on the provisions of the regulations and decisions applicable to the Structural Funds. They are:


Information and publicity measures must comply with the provisions of the above mentioned regulation and decision. A manual on compliance is available to national, regional and local authorities from the EC Delegation in the country concerned.

3. Information and publicity concerning Phare programmes

Information and publicity shall be the subject of a coherent set of measures defined by the competent national, regional and local authorities in collaboration with the EC Delegations for the duration of the Financing Memorandum and shall concern both programmes and other forms of assistance.
The costs of information and publicity relating to individual projects shall be met from the budget for those projects.

When Phare programmes are implemented, the measures set out at (a) and (b) below shall apply:

(a) The competent authorities of the applicant countries shall publish the content of programmes and other forms of assistance in the most appropriate form. They shall ensure that such documents are appropriately disseminated and shall hold them available for interested parties. They shall ensure the consistent presentation throughout the territory of the applicant country of information and publicity material produced.

(b) Information and publicity measures on the spot shall include the following:

(i) In the case of infrastructure investments with a cost exceeding EUR 1 million:

- billboards erected on the sites, to be installed in accordance with the provisions of the regulation and decision mentioned in paragraph 2 above, and the technical specifications of the manual to be provided by the EC Delegation in the country concerned.

- permanent commemorative plaques for infrastructures accessible to the general public, to be installed in accordance with the provisions of the regulation and decision mentioned in paragraph 2 above, and the technical specifications of the manual to be provided by the EC Delegation in the country concerned.

(ii) In the case of productive investments, measures to develop local potential and all other measures receiving financial assistance from Phare:

- measures to make potential beneficiaries and the general public aware of Phare assistance, in accordance with the provisions cited at paragraph 3(b)(i) above.

- measures targeting applicants for public aids part-financed by Phare, ISPA or SAPARD in the form of an indication on the forms to be filled out by such applications, that part of the aid comes from the EU, and specifically, the Phare Programmes in accordance with the provisions outlined above.

4. Visibility of EU assistance in business circles and among potential beneficiaries and the general public

4.1 Business circles

Business circles must be involved as closely as possible with the assistance which concerns them most directly.
The authorities responsible for implementing assistance shall ensure the existence of appropriate channels for disseminating information to potential beneficiaries, particularly SMEs. These should include an indication of the administrative procedures to be followed.

4.2 Other potential beneficiaries

The authorities responsible for implementing assistance shall ensure the existence of appropriate channels for disseminating information to all persons who benefit or could benefit from measures concerning training, employment or the development of human resources. To this end, they shall secure the cooperation of vocational training bodies involved in employment, business and groups of business, training centres and non-governmental organisations.

Forms

Forms issued by national, regional or local authorities concerning the announcement of, application for and grant of assistance intended for final beneficiaries or any other person eligible for such assistance shall indicate that the EU, and specifically the Phare Programme, is providing financial support. The notification of aid sent to beneficiaries shall mention the amount or percentage of the assistance financed by the Phare Programme. If such documents bear the national or regional emblem, they shall also bear the EU logo of the same size.

4.3 The general public

The media

The competent authorities shall inform the media in the most appropriate manner about actions co-financed by the EU, and Phare in particular. Such participation shall be fairly reflected in this information.

To this end, the launch of operations (once they have been adopted by the Commission) and important phases in their implementation shall be the subject of information measures, particularly in respect of regional media (press, radio and television). Appropriate collaboration must be ensured with the EC Delegation in the applicant country.

The principles laid down in the two preceding paragraphs shall apply to advertisements such as press releases or publicity communiqués.

Information events

The organisers of information events such as conferences, seminars, fairs and exhibitions in connection with the implementation of operations part-financed by the Phare Programme shall undertake to make explicit the participation of the EU. The opportunity could be taken of displaying the European flags in meeting rooms and the EU logo upon documents depending on the circumstances. The EC Delegation in the applicant country shall assist, as necessary, in the preparation and implementation of such events.
Information material

Publications (such as brochures and pamphlets) about programmes or similar measures financed or co-financed by Phare should, on the title page, contain a clear indication of the EU participation as well as the EU logo where the national or regional emblem is used.

Where such publications include a preface, it should be signed by both the person responsible in the applicant country and, for the Commission, the Delegate of the Commission to ensure that EU participation is made clear.

Such publications shall refer to the national and regional bodies responsible for informing interested parties.

The above-mentioned principles shall also apply to audio-visual material.

5. Special arrangements concerning billboards, commemorative plaques and posters

In order to ensure the visibility of measures part-financed by the Phare Programme, applicant countries shall ensure that the following information and publicity measures are complied with:

Billboards

Billboards providing information on EU participation in the financing of the investment should be erected on the sites of all projects in which EU participation amounts to EUR 1 million or more. Even where the competent national or regional authorities do not erect a billboard announcing their own involvement in financing the EU assistance must nevertheless be announced on a special billboard. Billboards must be of a size which is appreciable to the scale of operation (taking into account the amount of co-financing from the EU) and should be prepared according to the instructions contained in the technical manual obtainable from EC Delegations, referred to above.

Billboards shall be removed not earlier than six months after completion of the work and replaced, wherever possible, by a commemorative plaque in accordance with the specifications outlined in the technical manual referred to above.

Commemorative plaques

Permanent commemorative plaques should be placed at sites accessible to the general public (congress centres, airports, stations, etc.). In addition to the EU logo, such plaques must mention the EU part-financing together with a mention of the Phare Programme.

Where a national, regional or local authority or another final beneficiary decides to erect a billboard, place a commemorative plaque, display a poster or take any
other step to provide information about projects with a cost of less than EUR 1 million, the EU participation must also be indicated.

6. Final provisions

The national, regional or local authorities concerned may, in any event, carry out additional measures if they deem this appropriate. They shall consult the EC Delegation and inform it of the initiatives they take so that the Delegation may participate appropriately in their realisation.

In order to facilitate the implementation of these provisions, the Commission, through its Delegations on the spot, shall provide technical assistance in the form of guidance on design requirements, where necessary. A manual will be prepared in the relevant national language, which will contain detailed design guidelines in electronic form and this will be available upon request.