

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CONSULTATION ON THE REVISION OF  
DECISION No 1692/96/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
AND THE COUNCIL  
of 23 July 1996  
on Community guidelines for the development of the Trans-European  
transport network**

According to Article 21 of the European Parliament and Council Decision on Community Guidelines for the development of the Trans-European transport network (Decision No 1692/96), the Commission is preparing a proposal to modify the Community guidelines for the development of the Trans-European network. A first proposal was adopted by the Commission on October 2001 and subsequently modified after the Parliament's opinion (COM 2002)542).

The Commission is now preparing a second proposal. It intends to formulate its proposal, on one hand in the light of the debate triggered by the first proposal, and on the other hand using on the findings of a high level group composed of experts designated by the transport ministers of the current and future Member States, and the EIB, which was chaired by Mr Karel Van Miert. The report describes the recommended priority projects, the methodology to identify them, and an outline of the estimated impacts ([http://europa.eu.int/comm/ten/transport/revision/hlg\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/ten/transport/revision/hlg_en.htm)).

In June 2002, the Commission committed itself (COM (2002) 276) to carry out an Impact Assessment for the main policies and decisions to improve the quality of Commission proposals by the prior examination of the environmental, social and economic effects of the proposals. The impact assessment procedure will be implemented gradually and will become fully operational in 2004.

The TEN-T Guidelines have been selected as one of the pilot projects for an Extended Impact Assessment for 2003. The Commission services therefore give all stakeholders and interested parties the opportunity to communicate in writing their positions and concerns related to the TEN-T revision. Stakeholders are thus invited to provide comments in writing to the report on the high level group before 1<sup>st</sup> September 2003 to the following address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Energy and Transport  
TEN-T Revision  
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Reactions can also be sent by e-mail to:  
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