

EXTERNAL AUDIT CERTIFICATE

Addressed to: [full name and the address of the EU grant Beneficiary concerned]

We, [legal name of the audit firm], established in [full address/city/state/province/country] and represented for signature of this audit certificate by [name and function of an authorised representative], hereby certify that:

- Our company is qualified to deliver this audit Certificate according to the International accounting standards;
- We have conducted an audit relating to the costs declared in the Financial Statement included in the [FTIR¹/ ITIR² No xx] of [name of EU grant Beneficiary] hereinafter referred to as "Beneficiary", to which this audit certificate is attached, and which is to be presented to the European Commission under Commission Decision [C(2010)xxx of xxx for the Action No EEPR-2009-INTx-xxx] for the following period "[insert period covered by the Financial Statement subject to the present audit certificate]";
- Our audit was carried out in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards respecting ethical rules and on the basis of the relevant provisions of the above referenced Decision and its annexes;
- The above mentioned Financial Statement was examined and all tests of the supporting documentation and accounting records deemed necessary were carried out in order to obtain reasonable assurance³ that, in our opinion, based on our audit, **the amounts declared as eligible costs** and amounting to [insert amount in number] € ([insert amount in words] euro) **comply** with the following cumulative conditions⁴:
 - ☐ They are actual;
 - ☐ They are incurred during the duration of the Action as specified in the Decision granting financial aid⁵, with the exception of costs relating to final reports and audit certificates on the Action's financial statements and underlying accounts;
 - ☐ They are connected with the subject of the Action and they are indicated in the estimated overall budget of the Action;
 - ☐ They are necessary for the implementation of the Action which is the subject of the financial aid;
 - ☐ They are identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the Beneficiary (at the date of the establishment of this audit certificate) and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the Beneficiary is established and according to the usual accounting practices of the Beneficiary;
 - ☐ They comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislations;
 - ☐ They are reasonable, justified, and comply with the requirements of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency;

¹ Final Technical Implementation Report and Financial Statement

² Interim Technical Implementation Report and Financial Statement

³ Reasonable assurance is an accounting expression meaning a high degree of confidence that information is valid and unaltered.

⁴ In accordance with section III.3.6 of the above-mentioned Commission Decision

⁵ See Section II.2.1 of the above-mentioned Commission Decision.

- ☐ They are exclusive of any non-eligible costs identified below⁶:
 - return on capital;
 - debt and debt service charges;
 - provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
 - interest owed;
 - doubtful debts;
 - exchange losses;
 - VAT, unless the Beneficiary can show that he is unable to recover it according to the applicable national legislation (Article 23.3 of the Regulation (EC) N° 663/2009);
 - costs declared by a Beneficiary and covered by another action or work programme receiving a Union financial aid;
 - excessive or reckless expenditure;
 - ☐ They are claimed in EURO, where relevant following a conversion at the monthly accounting rate established by the Commission and published on its website⁷ applicable for the month following the end of the reporting period⁸;
- Accounting procedures used in the recording of eligible costs respect the accounting rules of the Member State in which the Beneficiary is established and permit the direct reconciliation between the costs and receipts incurred for the implementation of the Action covered by the above-mentioned Commission Decision and the overall statement of accounts relating to the Beneficiary's overall business activity;
 - The **interests yielded by pre-financing** which amount to **[insert amount of interests in numbers]** € ([insert amount of interests in words] euro) as declared by the Beneficiary in the Financial Statement subject to this audit certificate are actual, identifiable and verifiable; *[IF NOT APPLICABLE, THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE DELETED FROM THE FORM]*
 - The **receipts**⁹ which amount to **[insert amount in numbers]** € ([insert amount in words] euro) as declared by the Beneficiary in the Financial Statement subject to this audit certificate are actual, attributable to the Action implementation, identifiable and verifiable and have been established, generated or confirmed on the date on which this audit certificate is issued; *[IN CASE AN ITIR IS SUBJECT TO THIS AUDIT CERTIFICATE, THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD BE DELETED FROM THE FORM]*
 - The Beneficiary paid for this audit certificate a price equal to **[insert amount in numbers]** € ([insert amount in words] euro) of which VAT is equal to **[insert amount in numbers]** € ([insert amount in words] euro).

Date: [Insert date of audit certificate]

STAMP AND SIGNATURE OF THE AUDIT FIRM:

⁶ In accordance with Section III.3.6 point 6 of the Annex III to the above-mentioned Commission Decision
⁷ <http://ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro/index.cfm?Language=en>

⁸ In accordance with Section I.2.4 of the above-mentioned Commission Decision

⁹ In accordance with Section III.3.7 points 4 and 5 of the Annex III to the above-mentioned Commission Decision; the interest yielded by pre-financing shall not be treated as a receipt for the Action within the meaning of Section III.3.7 (see Section III.3.5 point 10)