

**Actions arising from the meeting of the Task Force on instruments
8th February 2002**

Chair: P.Kind (RTD-B)

Present: E.Colinet (RTD-B2), J.D Malo (RTD-A3), M.Moller (INFSO), E. Pizanis (RTD-A2), C.Renier (RTD-B2), M.Richards (RTD-G4), E.Rille (RTD-L4), K.Rouhana (INFSO), Robert-Jan Smits (RTD-A3) G.Van den Brande (RTD-A2)

- **Communication/information**

Thematic seminars: DG Research is organising a seminar on each of its thematic priorities, aimed at presenting the new instruments to information multipliers. CREST and Research Group are being informed.

A letter has been addressed by A.Mitsos to R.Verrue concerning the seminars and also the issue of "calls for expression of interest".

- **Interaction with other institutions**

- **Council Research Group:** The note being drafted for the Research Group concerning joint and several liability will be circulated to the TF members by **A3**.
- **European Parliament:** next meeting of ITRE on 25th February.

- **Evaluation criteria**

The subgroup (**LvdB, MM, Isabel Minguez and CR**) had a further meeting on 5th February, dedicated to the criteria regarding NoE, adding a third "pillar" (management) to excellence and integration. Criteria for stairways of excellence finalised within the Working group; global approach: global questions, representing as an average 1 ½ page per instrument, split in more detailed items (that would be included either in an annex or in the work programme). **PK** strongly against quantitative measure in the criteria while in favour of requesting the related information in the calls for proposals. **Next meeting** of the subgroup planned on Wednesday **13th February**, with a view to finalising the **document on NoE criteria** for discussion during **a next TF meeting**.

- **Model contract**

One model contract with general conditions, and 9 different set of conditions, without any derived contract; submission of the **model contract** to the **Steering group** on **12th February**, as to be ready to sent the document by 26th February at the latest for the next meeting with the Member States planned on 12th March.

- **Role of SMEs in the new instruments**

Short presentation of the issue by RJS, discussion of the exact meaning of the "15% of the resources dedicated to the priority themes to be spent for SMEs". Further **document** to be jointly prepared by **RJS** and INFSO representatives (**MM, KR**) as to be discussed **within two weeks** by the TF. (SMEs in instruments, stairways of excellence, possible addition of evaluation criteria related to SME involvement...)

- **Financial regime for Networks of excellence**

Agreement was reached on the following points:

- Number of researchers to be taken into account defined at the time of the deadline for the call for proposals
- Taken into account of all researchers planned at that time
- Taken into account of all researchers engaged in the JPA, including partially (formula to be clarified)
- Necessity of defining a clear common position before meeting with DG BUDG on the issue

PK will review his text for next week, **next meeting** to be exclusively **dedicated** to the **financial aspects of NoE and IP**, with participation of “financial people” of both RTD and INFGSO. In the meantime, **JDM** to arrange a subgroup to be chaired by **PK** with Lehner and financial representatives from DG INFSO, anyone interested being welcome.

Next meeting, Friday 15th February, room to be confirmed, 9.00 a.m.