

**Actions arising from the meeting of the Task Force on
instruments
24 June 2002**

Chair: P. Kind (RTD-B)

Present: P.Baader (INFSO), L. Karapiperis (RTD-B2), J.D. Malo (RTD-A3), M. Moller (INFSO), N. Pantalos (ENTR), C. Profillis (RTD-B2), C.Renier (RTD-B2), M. Richards (RTD-G4), E. Rille (RTD-L4), I.Sabater (TREN), N. Sabatier (RTD-A3), R. Zimmermann (INFSO)

Weekly events

Rules for Participation: The EP plenary is expected to vote on the compromise text on 2/3 July.

Financial regime for the “grant to the budget”

The TF discussed a series of basic principles for the financial regime of instruments implemented through a grant to the budget, on basis of the document circulated by e-mail from **NRS** and **JDM** on the financial provisions of the model-contract for IP.

The discussion took place article by article. Except for some wording problems that will be discussed within the contract group, the following observations have been made:

- Article 3: It may be unnecessary to refer to the “total estimated budget”. A reference only to the Community's maximum contribution could be sufficient.
- Article 4: The article needs to allow for planning periods of one length (eg 18 months) and reporting periods of another (eg 12 months).
- Article II. 18: The periodicity of audit certificates needs to be reconsidered for instruments where all payments represent advances up to the final payment.
- Article II. 19: It was agreed to keep to the terminology of “FC” and “AC”. Further discussion is needed on whether to restrict the flat rate option to different categories of participant. Further discussion is needed on the level of the flat rates, once there is a clear definition of the costs they are deemed to cover. The meaning of “non-recurring costs” needs further examination.
- Article III.2: It was agreed that “measures taken to ensure financial security”, such as insurance to cover the risks of financial liability could be treated as a consortium management cost. Further discussion is needed on the treatment of consortium management costs that exceed the ceiling expressed in the contract for reimbursement at 100%.

DG INFSO (**MM**) set a general scrutiny reserve due to the late arrival of the document. A revised version, including further paragraphs on liability, sanctions and penalties, and signature of the contract, will be circulated by RTD.A3 (**NRS/JDM**) for the model contracts group to discuss on 25 June and for the Task Force to rediscuss on Friday 28 June.

JDM will circulate his paper to RZ concerning cost models in the various instruments.

Next meetings

Friday 28 June (9.00, SDME 1F) This meeting will now be entirely dedicated to financial issues: (a) conclusion of the financial regime for IP and other instruments concerning the grant to the budget; (b) initial discussion on the financial regime of NoE.

Friday 5 July (9.00, SDME 2F)

- **NoE financial regime:** concluding discussion
- **Evaluation criteria**, particularly for NoEs and STREPs;
- **Two-stage submission** (on the basis of a document from the evaluation group (**LvdB**)).
- **SME measures:** to stimulate the participation of SMEs in the new instruments.

Friday 12 July, (9.00, SDME 1F)

- Final discussion of the updated IP/NoE/STRP working documents with a view to publication on the web by 16 July
- procedures (+ **Robert Krengel**).
- **Content of proposals** (on basis of first draft of the infopack from the infopack group (+ **Juergen Rosenbaum**)).
- Results and implications of the **EoI** exercise (+ **David Miles**).

Friday 19 July (09.00)

- First discussion of working documents for co-ordination actions and specific support actions (on basis of drafts by **MM**).
- Discussion of the role of the project officer, particularly in negotiation and contract follow-up.

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