



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 19.8.2004
COM(2004) 551 final

2004/0194 (COD)

Proposal for a

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Council Decision 2001/51/EC establishing a Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality and Decision No 848/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community action programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The EU has a long-standing commitment to promoting gender equality, enshrined in the Treaty in 1957, in directives and a corpus of case law. Article 2 of the Treaty recognises gender equality as a fundamental task for the Community. Article 3 (2) states that in all its activities the Community shall aim to eliminate inequalities and to promote equality between men and women. Article 13 empowers the Community to take action to combat discrimination based on a number of grounds including sex. The Community legal framework ensures that women and men are equal before the law and a wide range of action has been taken at European and national level. However, gender equality in the EU is still being undermined by the fact that women and men do not have equal rights in practice and under-representation of and violence against women show that there are structural gender inequalities. Continuous support is therefore necessary to make gender equality effective in all spheres of life.

The Community Action Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001–2005)¹, the fifth action programme in this field was adopted by the Council on 20 December 2000 to run from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2005, with a budget of EUR 50 million. It supports the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001–2005), a new approach embracing all Community policies in the effort to promote the achievement of gender equality, by developing the necessary horizontal activities and improving coordination of gender-related activities in the various policy areas.

This Programme has the following objectives and corresponding strands:

- (a) To promote and disseminate the values and practices underlying gender equality. This strand covers awareness-raising activities with a view to reinforcing the Community dimension of the promotion of gender equality. This may include transnational conferences, seminars and campaigns, large-scale events at EU level, publications and Internet sites;
- (b) To improve the understanding of issues related to gender equality, including direct and indirect discrimination and multiple discrimination against women, by evaluating the effectiveness of policies and practices through prior analysis, monitoring their implementation and assessing their effects. This strand encompasses, for example, support for the development of comparable statistics and indicators, EU analysis of the gender dimension of policies and measures, the follow-up of the implementation of Community equality legislation, studies and the publication of an Annual Report on Gender Equality;
- (c) To develop the capacity of key players (NGOs, social partners at EU level, transnational networks of regional or local authorities) to promote gender equality effectively, in particular through support for the exchange of information and good practice and networking at Community level.

¹ OJ L 17, 19.1.2001, p. 22.

Possible actions for each strand are detailed in the Annex of the Council Decision establishing the Programme. Actions should be implemented in a transnational framework with a view to developing Community added value. The Programme Committee set annual priority themes for the calls for proposals as follows: equal pay in 2001, reconciliation of work and family life in 2002, women in decision-making in 2003 and gender roles and stereotypes in 2004/2005.

This Programme contributes to mainstreaming the gender dimension into all policies and using their potential to promote gender equality as well as to increasing the awareness of the issues at stake. It further strengthens cooperation and partnership between players involved in the promotion of gender equality, especially national authorities, equality bodies, social partners and NGOs. A mid-term evaluation has been carried out with the assistance of independent experts with a view to providing the Commission with information on how to further reinforce and improve the system of Community support for the promotion of equality between men and women.

Another Community Action Programme with the objective of promoting organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women was recently established by the European Parliament and the Council on 29 April 2004² and runs from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2005 with a budget of EUR 2.2 million. This Decision puts the long-standing practice of supporting organisations working to promote equality between women and men on the footing of a basic legal instrument.

Both Programmes come to an end simultaneously at a time of major changes for the construction and functioning of an enlarged European Union in general which necessitate profound reflection on the future approach to be taken in the implementation of the Social Policy Agenda, particularly with regard to the structure of the Community Action Programmes in the employment and social spheres. Currently, there are five such programmes which are implemented in a similar fashion and support comparable types of measures. Besides the two gender equality programmes, these include two action programmes that aim at supporting the open method of coordination in the employment area (Employment Incentive Measures) and the social inclusion area (Social Inclusion Action Programme) and a programme dealing with the fight against discrimination. With the sole exception of the gender equality programmes all of them will expire at the end of 2006.

The proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision on a Framework Programme on the financing of actions in the employment and social field will cover the same period as the new financial perspectives, i.e. 2007–2013³. The Commission has thoroughly analysed the future of the implementation of the Social Policy Agenda including the objectives and operation of the Community Action Programmes and the links between them. The new proposal for the period 2007–2013 aims at simplifying the budget structure by merging the existing Community Action Programmes into one vast Framework Programme which will provide for the same types of co-financed actions, namely analyses and studies, support for European exchange mechanisms, awareness raising and support to civil society organisations. The strand on gender equality of the proposed Framework Programme for the period 2007–2013 will build on previous experience and continue the financial support to the development and implementation of Community law in the field of gender equality and the promotion of

² OJ L 157, 30.4.2004, p. 18.

³ COM (2004) 488 final.

gender mainstreaming in EU policies. It will also cover the support to EU umbrella networks active in the field of equality between men and women.

For the transitional period until the adoption of a new Framework Programme along the lines set out above it is essential to ensure the continuity of Community assistance for the promotion of gender equality and to avoid any disruption of the mechanism currently in place in support of the objectives laid down in Article 13 of the EC Treaty. The principles and objectives as well as the areas of intervention of the Community framework strategy on gender equality, which coincide with those set out in Decision 2001/51/EC and the Annex thereof, remain fully valid for this transitional year.

In view of these circumstances, the European Commission proposes that both the Programmes in the field of gender equality should be extended unchanged for 2006.

The Commission therefore proposes:

- to extend both the Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001–2005) and the Community Action Programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women until the end of the year 2006;
- to adjust the overall budget for the Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001–2005) as extended to EUR 61.5 million; and
- to adjust the overall budget of the Community Action Programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women as extended to EUR 3.3 million.

Proposal for a

DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Council Decision 2001/51/EC establishing a Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality and Decision No 848/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community action programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 13 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission⁴,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee⁵,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions⁶,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 251 of the Treaty⁷,

Whereas:

- (1) The Council by Decision 2001/51/EC established the Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality to improve the understanding of issues related to gender equality, promote and disseminate the values and practices underlying gender equality and develop the capacity of players to promote gender equality effectively
- (2) The European Parliament and the Council by Decision No 848/2004/EC established the Community Action Programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and women to support the activities of such organisations of which an ongoing programme of work or a specific measure serves the general European interest in the field of equality between men and women or pursues an objective which is part of the European Union's policy in this area
- (3) Both programmes expire on 31 December 2005. It is essential to ensure the continuity of Community policy for the promotion of gender equality in view of the objectives enshrined in Article 13 of the Treaty

⁴ OJ C , , p. .

⁵ OJ C , , p. .

⁶ OJ C , , p. .

⁷ OJ C , , p. .

- (4) It is necessary to extend the programmes for a one-year transitional period until a new multi-annual framework programme on the financing of actions in the employment and social field for the period 2007–2013 including a strand on gender equality is established.
- (5) Council Decision 2001/51/EC establishing a programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality was based on Article 13 of the Treaty. However, following the amendments introduced by the Treaty of Nice, Article 13(2) constitutes the specific legal basis for the adoption of Community incentive measures intended to contribute to the combating of discrimination. It is therefore appropriate to base the amendment of Decision 2001/51/EC on Article 13(2).

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Decision 2001/51/EC is hereby amended as follows:

1. In Article 1, the date of 31 December 2005 is replaced by that of 31 December 2006.
2. In Article 11(1), the financial reference amount of EUR 50 million is replaced by EUR 61.5 million.

Article 2

Decision No 848/2004/EC is hereby amended as follows:

1. In Article 1(3), the date of 31 December 2005 is replaced by that of 31 December 2006.
2. In Article 6(1), the financial framework of EUR 2.2 million is replaced by EUR 3.3 million.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President

LEGISLATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Policy area(s): Employment and Social Affairs – Equality for men and women

Activit(y/ies): Support for the promotion of gender equality

TITLE OF ACTION:

**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
amending Council Decision 2001/51/EC establishing a Programme relating to the
Community framework strategy on gender equality and Decision No 848/2004/EC of the
European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community action programme to
promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and
women**

Amendment to Council Decision 2001/51/EC

1. BUDGET LINE(S) + HEADING(S)

Articles 04.0502 and 04.010405

2. OVERALL FIGURES

2.1. Total allocation for action (Part B): € million for commitment

€ 11.5 million for commitment

This amount represents the budgetary impact of the proposal to extend the programme, which is due to end on 31 December 2005, for the additional year concerned, 2006. It is roughly equivalent to the budget for the year 2005.

2.2. Period of application:

1 January 2006–31 December 2006

2.3. Overall multiannual estimate of expenditure:

- (a) Schedule of commitment appropriations/payment appropriations (financial intervention) (see point 6.1.1)

€ million (to three decimal places)

	2006	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5 and sub s. years]	Total
Commitments	11.100						11.100
Payments	11.100						11.100

- (b) Technical and administrative assistance and support expenditure(see point 6.1.2)

Commitments	0.400						0.400
Payments	0.400						0.400

Subtotal a+b							
Commitments	11.500						11.500
Payments	11.500						11.500

- (c) Overall financial impact of human resources and other administrative expenditure (see points 7.2 and 7.3)

Commitments/ payments	14.915						14.915
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TOTAL a+b+c							
Commitments	26.415						26.415
Payments							26.415

2.4. Compatibility with financial programming and financial perspective:

- X Proposal is compatible with existing financial programming.

Proposal will entail reprogramming of the relevant heading in the financial perspective.

Proposal may require application of the provisions of the Interinstitutional Agreement.

2.5. Financial impact on revenue:⁸

X Proposal has no financial implications (involves technical aspects regarding implementation of a measure)

OR

Proposal has financial impact – the effect on revenue is as follows:

(NB All details and observations relating to the method of calculating the effect on revenue should be shown in a separate annex.)

(€ million to one decimal place)

Budget line		Revenue	Prior to action [Year n-1]	Situation following action						
				[Year n]	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5]	
		<i>a) Revenue in absolute terms</i>								
		<i>b) Change in revenue</i>	Δ							

(Please specify each budget line involved, adding the appropriate number of rows to the table if there is an effect on more than one budget line.)

3. BUDGET CHARACTERISTICS

Type of expenditure		New	EFTA contribution	Contributions from applicant countries	Heading in financial perspective
Non-comp	diff	NO	YES	YES	No 3

4. LEGAL BASIS

Article 13 (2) EC Treaty

⁸ For further information, see separate explanatory note.

5. DESCRIPTION AND GROUNDS

5.1. Need for Community intervention

5.1.1. Objectives pursued

The objective of the prolongation is to ensure the continuation of the Community Action Programme on gender equality during the year 2006. The present programme will expire on 31 December 2005. The prolongation is deemed necessary to guarantee continuity of Community action in a transitional period characterised by important institutional changes until the adoption of a new comprehensive multiannual Framework Programme on the financing of actions in the employment and social field, including gender equality.

The objective of the Decision remains unchanged: to support and supplement efforts to promote gender equality including complementing legislative developments by:

- promoting and disseminating the values and practices underlying gender equality;
- improving the understanding of issues related to direct and indirect gender discrimination based on sex through improved knowledge and measurement and through the evaluation of the effectiveness of policies and practices; and
- developing the capacity of target players to promote gender equality.

5.1.2. Measures taken in connection with ex ante evaluation

This programme is the prolongation of the 5th Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001-2005). An external ongoing evaluation started at the beginning of 2003 and will end in December 2006. The executive summary of the interim evaluation will be available on http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/evaluation/gender01_en.html.

The Commission has drawn up an interim evaluation report based on the external evaluation available that will be made public soon. As explained in the interim evaluation report, the Action Programme has been designed to support the implementation of the Framework Strategy on gender equality with three main objectives, raising awareness, improving analysis and evaluation and developing capacity of players to promote gender equality. Results from the first three years show that the funded activities meet the objectives. Furthermore activities designed to raise awareness will in the process build up capacity - and vice versa - and both kinds of action either rely on or can be expected to promote policy analysis. This makes the classification of the eligible activities into the three strands somewhat artificial, as noted by the external evaluators.

The programme has an important role to play in supporting policy cooperation at European level. The broad formulation of the main objectives of each strand allows the funding of a wide range of projects with different durations, types of users and objectives to respond to the variety of objectives defined in the Framework Strategy on gender equality. Valuable direct contributions have been made by activities funded under strand 2 (such as expert networks and statistical work) and strand 1 (such as the Council Presidency and the Commission's conferences). The transnational projects run by national authorities have contributed to reinforcing synergy between national policies on gender equality.

On the other hand, the contribution of transnational projects subsidised under strand 3 is less apparent. Many projects deal with the development of methods and tools for which it is still too early to assess their impact. This will require further investigation in the course of the external evaluation.

5.1.3. Measures taken following evaluation

In the light of the preliminary findings of the interim evaluation, the Commission intends to develop more systematic information on the outputs of the Programme and its various activities. It is important to improve the synergy between the three strands by encouraging the flow of information and knowledge between the various activities.

For this purpose a regularly updated Commission website should be the major source of information and this message should be clearly passed to all project promoters. The comparable statistics developed by EUROSTAT in cooperation with the Member States, the studies conducted by the expert networks, the Commission's assessment of National Action Plans for Employment and social inclusion are all accessible from the Commission website. European conferences are also an opportunity to make the Programme's outputs better known.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that the fundamental *raison d'être* of such a Programme is its European added value. The Programme has to contribute to the development and the implementation of EU law concerning gender equality and to the promotion of the gender dimension in EU policies. This should be further analysed in the course of the external evaluation. In the context of the enlarged European Union, the Commission will pay attention to keeping all activities funded by the Programme in line with this fundamental requirement.

5.2. Action envisaged and budget intervention arrangements

In the context of the Amsterdam Treaty, gender mainstreaming has been firmly anchored in Article 3. In parallel to gender mainstreaming, specific actions in favour of women have proved to be essential in order to eliminate persistent inequalities.

Three sub-objectives have been identified to which correspond three major strands for actions under this Programme which run concurrently:

- promoting and disseminating values and practices underlying gender equality;
- improving the understanding of issues related to direct and indirect discrimination based on sex through improved knowledge and measurement and through the evaluation of the effectiveness of policies and practices;
- developing the capacity of target players to promote gender equality.

The Programme will work with a variety of target players selected from among policymakers in national, regional and local administrations, independent bodies responsible for the promotion of gender equality, non-governmental organisations, social partners, research institutes, the media, opinion-formers, the judiciary and law enforcement agencies.

The lessons of past programmes suggest that maximum added-value is obtained when programmes concentrate on a limited number of high-quality, large-scale coordinated activities where the emphasis is on supporting Member States' efforts to promote change at

national, regional and local levels. This involves Member States' governments, local and regional authorities, social partners, grass-root NGOs, independent experts and academics.

The three strands will continue to operate as in the first five years as follows:

- **Awareness-raising (Strand 1)**

This strand aims at disseminating the lessons of the Programme and adding to the momentum needed for the acceptance of change in society. It will contribute to creating the political conditions necessary for legislative or other developments.

With the aim of supporting and improving the synergy between national policies on gender equality and also to develop a Community added value, this strand will support the implementation of initiatives, to be developed by the Member States authorities, on particular topics approved annually, after discussion with the Programme Committee.

It includes classical information and communication tools and targeted visibility/awareness-raising events or campaigns.

- **Analysis and evaluation (Strand 2)**

This strand aims at developing and improving various tools for collecting information, putting it into a useable and comparable form and ensuring its dissemination to the target players in the Member States. This will build on work carried out during the previous equality programmes.

The Programme should assist players in the different Member States to learn from the experience of others, with the objective of improving the effectiveness of their efforts to promote gender equality. Information about what is happening in the Member States needs therefore to be made available in a form which is readily accessible and which will be used by the players.

- **Capacity building (Strand 3)**

This strand aims at adding value to the capacity of players to address gender equality effectively. This is achieved by disseminating to these players good practices and lessons from experience and involving them in a process of transnational exchange and dialogue at EU level.

Past experience related to the grounds for combating gender discrimination has underlined the importance of working in partnership with target players in the Member States and with organisations working in the field of gender equality. Previous Community action in the field of equal opportunities between women and men and initiatives in the fields of disability and social inclusion have shown the value of bringing players together in transnational partnerships which can form the basis for the exchange of good practice.

5.3. Methods of implementation

The delivery mechanisms stipulated in the proposal are in keeping with to the classic Community approach to grants and co-funding on the basis of a detailed financial request. The actions to be taken may be funded by service contracts following open calls for tender or restricted calls for proposals addressed to the Member States or by subsidies for joint

financing with other sources. In the latter case, the level of financial assistance from the Commission may not exceed, as a general rule, 80% of the expenditure actually incurred by the recipient. The Programme is managed centrally by the Commission.

The programme budget may also cover expenditure associated with preparation, follow-up, monitoring, auditing and evaluation activities directly necessary for the management of the programme and for the realisation of its objectives, such as studies, meetings, information and publication activities, expenditure associated with IT networks for the exchange of information and any other administrative and technical support expenditure on which the Commission may decide for the management of the programme.

6. FINANCIAL IMPACT

6.1. Total financial impact on Part B (over the entire programming period)

(The method of calculating the total amounts set out in the table below must be explained by the breakdown in Table 6.2.)

6.1.1. Financial intervention

Commitments (in € million to three decimal places)

Breakdown	2006	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5 and subs. years]	Total
Action 1	5.300						5.300
Action 2	1.900						1.900
Action 3.	3.900						3.900
Action 4: Technical and administrative assistance, support expenditure	0.400						0.400
TOTAL	11.500						11.500

6.1.2. *Technical and administrative assistance, support expenditure and IT expenditure (commitment appropriations)*

	[Year n]	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5 and subs. years]	Total
1) Technical and administrative assistance	0.250						0.250
a) Technical assistance offices							
b) Other technical and administrative assistance: - intra muros: - extra muros: <i>of which for construction and maintenance of computerised management systems</i>							
Subtotal 1	0.250						0.250
2) Support expenditure							
a) Studies							
b) Meetings of experts							
c) Information and publications	0.150						0.150
Subtotal 2	0.150						0.150
TOTAL	0.400						0.400

6.2. Calculation of costs by measure envisaged in Part B (over the entire programming period)⁹

(Where there is more than one action, give sufficient detail of the specific measures to be taken for each one to allow the volume and costs of the outputs to be estimated.)

Commitments (in € million to three decimal places)

Breakdown	Type of outputs (projects, files)	Number of outputs (total for years 1...n)	Average unit cost	Total cost (total for years 1...n)
	1	2	3	4=(2X3)
<u>Action 1: awareness-raising</u>				
- Measure 1: European raising events	Conferences, seminars	3	0.250	0.750
- Measure 2 : transnational initiatives run by national authorities or equality bodies	Transnational projects	10	0.430	4.300
<u>Action 2: analysis and evaluation</u>				
- Measure 1: development of comparable statistics and indicators	Statistical data and studies	3	0.300	0.900
- Measure 2: policy analysis				
- Measure 3: designing, implementing and monitoring gender equality legislation etc.	Experts network Legal experts network	1 1	0.500 0.500	0.500 0.500
<u>Action 3: Strengthening capacity</u>				
Measure 1: transnational exchanges of good practice, experience, etc	Transnational projects	14	0.299	4.150
<u>Action 4 : Action 4: Technical and administrative assistance, support expenditure</u>				
Measure 1: technical and administrative assistance	Human resources Publications	3.27	0.07632	0.250
Measure 2: support expenditure		3	0.050	0.150
TOTAL COST				11.500

If necessary explain the method of calculation

⁹ For further information, see separate explanatory note.

7. IMPACT ON STAFF AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE

7.1. Impact on human resources

Types of post		Staff to be assigned to management of the action using existing and/or additional resources		Total	Description of tasks deriving from the action
		Number of permanent posts	Number of temporary posts		
Officials or temporary staff	A	8	0	8	<i>some people in the unit, work only partially on the implementation of the program</i>
	B	3	0	3	
	C	3	0	3	
Other human resources		1	0	1	EFTA END
Total		15	0	15	

7.2. Overall financial impact of human resources

Type of human resources	Amount (€)	Method of calculation *
Officials Temporary staff	15*108.000= 1.620.000	le coût moyen est de 108.000 € (basé sur un B2).
Other human resources (specify budget line)	0	EFTA END
Total	1.620.000	

The amounts are total expenditure for twelve months.

7.3. Other administrative expenditure deriving from the action

Budget line (number and heading)	Amount €	Method of calculation
Overall allocation (Title A7)		
A0701 – Missions	36.200	consumption in 2003 + 10%
A07030 – Meetings	36.200	consumption in 2003 + 10%
A07031 – Compulsory committees	90.000	consumption in 2003 + 10%
A07032 – Non-compulsory committees	0	
A07040 – Conferences	0	
A0705 – Studies and consultations	0	
Other expenditure (specify)	0	
Information systems (A-5001/A-4300)	0	
Other expenditure - Part A (specify)	0	
Total	162.400	

The amounts are total expenditure for twelve months.

I.	Annual total (7.2 + 7.3)	€ 1.636.240
II.	Duration of action	1 year
III.	Total cost of action (I x II)	€ 1.636.240

The needs for human and administrative resources shall be covered within the allocation granted to the managing Directorate General in the framework of the annual allocation procedure.

8. FOLLOW-UP AND EVALUATION

8.1. Follow-up arrangements

The prolongation will continue to be implemented along the same lines as the Programme in its first five years. Implementation will involve participation in selection panels of calls for proposals, monitoring of ongoing contracts and financial control of all transactions between the Commission and the beneficiaries.

8.2. Arrangements and schedule for the planned evaluation

The Programme will be monitored throughout its operation. The Programme Committee will receive regular information prepared by the Commission. The monitoring will be adapted according to the needs of each of the strands and will include aspects of both quality assurance and financial regularity.

In addition, the Programme is subject to an interim report on its implementation which *is currently in the process of adoption / has been adopted* by the Commission on ...¹⁰. The ongoing evaluation will continue to provide the Commission with regular evaluation findings until the final report on the implementation of the Framework Strategy and this Programme which will be drawn up by 31 December 2006. The Commission was and will be assisted by external evaluators for both reports.

9. ANTI-FRAUD MEASURES

All the measures funded are subject to ex ante, in itinere and ex post analysis by the responsible departments as regards content quality and cost-effectiveness. The grant application forms will require information on the identity and nature of potential beneficiaries so that their reliability can be assessed in advance. Fraud prevention measures (checks, reports) are included in the agreements or contracts between the Commission and beneficiaries. The Commission will check reports and ensure that work has been properly carried out before intermediate and/or final payments are made. Special attention will be made in order to avoid double funding. In addition, controls by the Commission or the Court of Auditors of the European Communities may be carried out on the basis of documents or on the spot.

¹⁰ SEC (2004) ... (to be inserted)..

LEGISLATIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Policy area(s): Employment and Social Affairs – Equality for men and women

Activit(y/ies): Support for the promotion of gender equality

TITLE OF ACTION:

**DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
amending Council Decision 2001/51/EC establishing a Programme relating to the
Community framework strategy on gender equality and Decision No 848/2004/EC of the
European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community action programme to
promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between men and
women**

Amendment to Council Decision No 848/2004/EC

1. BUDGET LINE(S) + HEADING(S)

A-3037 (No ABB 040503) and A-3046 (No ABB 040501)

2. OVERALL FIGURES

2.1. Total allocation for action (Part B): € million for commitment:

1.1 € million for commitment

This amount represents the budgetary impact of the proposal to extend the programme, which is due to end on 31 December 2005, for the additional year concerned, 2006. It is roughly equivalent to the budgets for the years 2004 and 2005.

2.2. Period of application:

1 January 2006–31 December 2006

2.3. Overall multiannual estimate of expenditure:

(a) Schedule of commitment appropriations/payment appropriations (financial intervention) *(see point 6.1.1)*

€ million *(to three decimal places)*

	2006	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5 and subs. years]	Total
Commitments	1.100						1.100

(b) Technical and administrative assistance and support expenditure (see point 6.1.2)

Commitments	None						

Subtotal a+b							
Commitments	1.100						1.100

(c) Overall financial impact of human resources and other administrative expenditure (see points 7.2 and 7.3)

Commitments/ payments	None						
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TOTAL a+b+c							
Commitments	1.100						1.100

2.4. Compatibility with financial programming and financial perspective

X Proposal is compatible with existing financial programming.

Proposal will entail reprogramming of the relevant heading in the financial perspective.

Proposal may require application of the provisions of the Interinstitutional Agreement.

2.5. Financial impact on revenue:¹¹

X Proposal has no financial implications (involves technical aspects regarding implementation of a measure)

OR

Proposal has financial impact – the effect on revenue is as follows:

(NB All details and observations relating to the method of calculating the effect on revenue should be shown in a separate annex.)

¹¹ For further information, see separate explanatory note.

(€ million to one decimal place)

		Prior to action [Year n-1]	Situation following action					
Budget line	Revenue		[Year n]	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5]
	<i>a) Revenue in absolute terms</i>							
	<i>b) Change in revenue</i>	Δ						

(Please specify each budget line involved, adding the appropriate number of rows to the table if there is an effect on more than one budget line.)

3. BUDGET CHARACTERISTICS

Type of expenditure		New	EFTA contribution	Contributions from applicant countries	Heading in financial perspective
Non-comp	Non-diff	NO	YES	YES	No 5

4. LEGAL BASIS

Article 13(2) EC Treaty

5. DESCRIPTION AND GROUNDS

5.1. Need for Community intervention

5.1.1. Objectives pursued

The objective of the prolongation is to ensure the continuation of the Community Action Programme to promote organisations active at European level in the field of equality between women and men. The present programme will expire on 31 December 2005. The prolongation is deemed necessary to guarantee continuity of Community action in a transitional period characterised by important institutional changes (enlargement of the Union, a new European Parliament and a new Commission) until the adoption of a new comprehensive multiannual Framework Programme on the financing of actions in the employment and social field including gender equality.

The objective of the Decision remains unchanged: to support the activities of organisations active at European level in the field of equality for women and men, of which an ongoing programme of work or a specific action serves the general European interest the field of equality for women and men or pursues an objective which is part of the European Union's policy in this area.

5.1.2. Measures taken in connection with ex ante evaluation

The Programme which it is proposed to extend is a new one aimed at providing a legal basis for awarding grants to organisations active at European level in the field of equality for men and women for the years 2004 and 2005. Its adoption was made necessary by the new structure of the Commission's budget under the new Financial Regulation with effect from 2004.

5.1.3. Measures taken following ex post evaluation

The activities of the European Women's Lobby have in the past been subject to several annual evaluations by the Commission's departments. In addition, an audit report was drawn up in 1999 at the European Parliament's request. These results have shown that the Lobby's activities have an effective, significant impact, in particular by informing women of their rights, and that it has a substantial influence on policymakers at European, national, regional and local level with regard to the promotion of gender equality.

A report presenting the results obtained by the beneficiaries is scheduled for December 2006, in particular with a view to assessing its effectiveness as regards the achievement of its objectives.

5.2. Action envisaged and budget intervention arrangements

In the context of the Amsterdam Treaty, gender mainstreaming has been firmly anchored in Article 3. In parallel to gender mainstreaming, specific actions in favour of women have proved to be essential in order to eliminate persistent inequalities. The activities of certain organisations help to promote gender equality. The European Women's Lobby in particular, which is present in almost all Member States and has over 3000 members, plays a major role in promoting, monitoring and disseminating Community measures aimed at women with a view to achieving equality between women and men.

The general objective of the Programme is to reinforce Community action in the field of equality between men and women and the effectiveness of such action by offering financial support to organisations active at European level in the field of equality between women and men, including the European Women's Lobby.

The activities carried out by organisations which are eligible to receive a Community grant under the Programme will come under one of the following strands:

Strand 1: ongoing activities of the European Women's Lobby, whose members are, *inter alia*, women's organisations in the Member States of the European Union, subject to observance of the following principles:

- it must be free to select its members,
- it must be free to pursue its activities.

Strand 2: ongoing activities of an organisation pursuing an objective of general European interest in the field of gender equality or an objective forming part of the European Union's policy in this area. This applies to a non-profit-making body carrying out its activities exclusively in order to achieve equality between women and men or an organisation with a wider aim which carries out part of its activities exclusively to promote equality between

women and men. An annual operating grant may be awarded to support the implementation of such an organisation's ongoing programme of work.

Strand 3: specific actions of an organisation pursuing an objective of general European interest in the field of equality between women and men or an objective forming part of the European Union's policy in this area.

5.3. Methods of implementation

The delivery mechanisms stipulated in the proposal are in keeping with the classic Community approach to grants and co-funding on the basis of a detailed financial request. The actions to be taken may be funded by subsidies for joint financing with other sources. In this case, the level of financial assistance from the Commission may not exceed, as a general rule, 80% of the expenditure actually incurred by the recipient. The Programme is managed centrally by the Commission

6. FINANCIAL IMPACT

6.1. Total financial impact on Part B (over the entire programming period)

(The method of calculating the total amounts set out in the table below must be explained by the breakdown in Table 6.2.)

6.1.1. Financial intervention

Commitments (in € million to three decimal places)

Breakdown	2006	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5 and subs. years]	Total
Action 1	0.750						0.750
Action 2	0.350						0.350
etc.							
TOTAL	1.100						1.100

6.1.2. *Technical and administrative assistance, support expenditure and IT expenditure (commitment appropriations)*

	2006	[n+1]	[n+2]	[n+3]	[n+4]	[n+5 and subs. years]	Total
1) Technical and administrative assistance	None						
a) Technical assistance offices	None						
b) Other technical and administrative assistance: - intra muros: - extra muros: <i>of which for construction and maintenance of computerised management systems</i>							
Subtotal 1	None						
2) Support expenditure							
a) Studies							
b) Meetings of experts							
c) Information and publications							
Subtotal 2							
TOTAL							

6.2. Calculation of costs by measure envisaged in Part B (over the entire programming period)¹²

(Where there is more than one action, give sufficient detail of the specific measures to be taken for each one to allow the volume and costs of the outputs to be estimated.)

Commitments (in € million to three decimal places)

Breakdown	Type of outputs (projects, files)	Number of outputs (total for years 1...n)	Average unit cost	Total cost (total for years 1...n)
	1	2	3	4=(2X3)
<u>Action 1</u>				
- Measure 1				
- Measure 2				
<u>Action 2</u>				
- Measure 1				
- Measure 2				
- Measure 3				
etc.				
TOTAL COST				

If necessary, explain the method of calculation

7. IMPACT ON STAFF AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE

7.1. Impact on human resources

Types of post	Staff to be assigned to management of the action using existing and/or additional resources		Total	Description of tasks deriving from the action
	Number of permanent posts	Number of temporary posts		
Officials or temporary staff	A B C	1/3	1/3 A	Supervision, contact person
Other human resources				
Total		1/3 A*		

¹² For further information, see separate explanatory note.

* Existing resources

7.2. Overall financial impact of human resources

Type of human resources	Amount (€)	Method of calculation *
Officials	108.000*0.33=	average cost is 108.000 €
Temporary staff	36.000	
Other human resources (specify budget line)		
Total	36.000	

The amounts are total expenditure for twelve months.

7.3. Other administrative expenditure deriving from the action

Budget line (number and heading)	Amount €	Method of calculation
Overall allocation (Title A7)	None	
A0701 – Missions		
A07030 – Meetings		
A07031 – Compulsory committees ¹		
A07032 – Non-compulsory committees ¹		
A07040 – Conferences		
A0705 – Studies and consultations		
Other expenditure (specify)		
Information systems (A-5001/A-4300)		
Other expenditure - Part A (specify)		
Total	None	

The amounts are total expenditure for twelve months.

¹ Specify the type of committee and the group to which it belongs.

I.	Annual total (7.2 + 7.3)	€ 36.000
II.	Duration of action	1 year
III.	Total cost of action (I x II)	€ 36.000

The needs for human and administrative resources shall be covered within the allocation granted to the managing Directorate General in the framework of the annual allocation procedure.

8. FOLLOW-UP AND EVALUATION

8.1. Follow-up arrangements

The prolongation will continue to be implemented along the same lines as the Programme in its first two years. Implementation will involve participation in selection panels of calls for proposals, monitoring of ongoing contracts and financial control of all transactions between the Commission and the beneficiaries.

8.2. Arrangements and schedule for the planned evaluation

Given that this Programme is designed to promote gender equality, the functions of monitoring and evaluation naturally form part of the activities implemented, in such a way as to derive maximum benefit from them.

The Programme is subject to the submission of a report by the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the achievement of its objectives. This report shall be based on the results obtained by the beneficiaries and shall assess, in particular, their effectiveness in achieving the said objectives.

9. ANTI-FRAUD MEASURES

All the measures funded are subject to ex ante, in itinere and ex post analysis by the responsible departments as regards content quality and cost-effectiveness. The grant application forms will require information on the identity and nature of potential beneficiaries so that their reliability can be assessed in advance. Fraud prevention measures (checks, reports) are included in the agreements or contracts between the Commission and beneficiaries. The Commission will check reports and ensure that work has been properly carried out before intermediate and/or final payments are made. Special attention will be made in order to avoid double funding. In addition, controls by the Commission or the Court of Auditors of the European Communities may be carried out on the basis of documents or on the spot.