



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 03.12.1999

COM(1999) 629 final

1998/0169 (COD)

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION  
pursuant to Article 251 (2) (c) of the EC Treaty,  
on the European Parliament's amendments  
to the Council's common position regarding the

proposal for a  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL DECISION

ESTABLISHING A SINGLE FINANCING AND PROGRAMMING  
INSTRUMENT FOR CULTURAL ~~COOPERATION~~ POLICY  
(CULTURE 2000 PROGRAMME)

AMENDING THE PROPOSAL OF THE COMMISSION  
pursuant to Article 250 (2) of the EC Treaty

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Article 251(2)(c) of the Treaty establishing the European Community states that the Commission shall issue an opinion on the amendments proposed by the European Parliament at second reading.

The Commission's opinion on the fourteen amendments proposed by Parliament is given below. In accordance with Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty, an amended proposal is enclosed, incorporating all or part of the thirteen Parliamentary amendments accepted by the Commission.

### BACKGROUND

- Proposal sent to the European Parliament and the Council 28.05.1998
- Opinion of the Committee of the Regions 19.11.1998
- Opinion of the European Parliament at first reading 5.11.1998
- Amended Commission proposal (COM(1998)673 16.11.1998
- Adoption of the common position 28.06.1999
- Commission opinion on the common position (SEC(1999)1227 ) 20.07.1999

In its opinion (SEC(1999)1227) the Commission concluded that the common position incorporated most of the European Parliament's amendments and maintained the key objective of the programme (to create a Community framework in order to implement a common cultural area to encourage creativity and cooperation, and to safeguard and improve awareness of European cultural heritage and the history of the European peoples). It accordingly supported the common position.

- Opinion of the European Parliament at second reading 28.10.1999

### PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Based on Article 151 of the EC Treaty, the Framework Programme in Support of Culture 2000-2004 seeks to provide a consistent, rational and transparent approach to Community action affecting culture.

The Culture 2000 programme helps to promote a cultural area common to the European peoples, by encouraging cooperation between creative artists, cultural operators and the cultural institutions of the Member States to attain the following objectives:

- a) mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the European peoples by highlighting their common cultural heritage and promoting cultural dialogue;
- b) the promotion of creativity and the international dissemination of culture and the movement of artists and their work;
- c) the promotion of cultural diversity and the development of new forms of cultural expression;
- d) recognition of the contribution culture makes to socioeconomic development;
- e) the promotion of cultural heritage of European significance;
- f) the promotion of European culture in non-European countries and dialogue with other world cultures.

These aims are to be achieved by the following measures:

- a) integrated actions covered by structured, multiannual cultural cooperation agreements;
- b) special cultural events with a European and/or international dimension;
- c) specific innovative and/or experimental actions in the Community and/or non-member countries.

## COMMISSION OPINION ON THE AMENDMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AT SECOND READING

The Commission accepts in their entirety, in part or in spirit 13 of the 14 amendments proposed by Parliament. These have been incorporated into the new amended proposal and can therefore be examined by the Council.

### **Amendments accepted by the Commission**

#### **Amendments accepted in their entirety or in spirit**

***Amendments: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14.***

##### Amendment 1

Title of the proposal for a decision

Proposal to replace the term cultural cooperation with "cultural policy"

##### Amendment 2

Article 1 – Duration and objectives

The Commission accepts the addition of a further objective "improved access to and participation in culture for a wider audience" to the existing list.

##### Amendment 4

Article 4 - Implementation and committee procedure

This amendment replaces the old text with the provisions on "Management procedure" laid down in the Council Decision of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission (OJ L 184, 17 July 1999, p. 23). The Commission accepts the principle of this amendment, by inserting a simple reference to the Decision.

##### Amendment 5

Article 7 – Evaluation and monitoring

This amendment requires the Commission to present a detailed mid-term assessment report on the results of the Culture 2000 programme "not later than 31 December 2002" (instead of "during 2002"). It also states that the report must be presented to the Economic and Social Committee as well as the European Parliament, the Council and the Committee of the Regions. The Commission accepts this amendment, but would point out that Article 151 of the Treaty does not require the Economic and Social Committee to be consulted in the field of culture.

##### \*Amendment 6

Annex I – Specific, innovative and/or experimental actions – Number of operators required for eligibility of projects

The Commission accepts this amendment, which, in the case of specific actions, requires the involvement of operators from at least three states (the common position refers to "several Member States).

##### Amendments 8 and 9 Annex 1.3

Special cultural events with a European or international dimension

The Commission accepts this amendment, whereby Parliament extends the scope of this action to other special cultural events (such as European prizes, support for projects for conserving and safeguarding the cultural heritage or the organisation of innovative cultural events with a major symbolic dimension and accessible to all).

##### Amendment 10

Annex I – IV Technical assistance and accompanying actions

The Commission accepts this amendment to the effect that under "remaining expenditure" relating to programme implementation (which should be around 10% of the programme's annual budget) recourse to technical assistance organisations should not exceed 3% of the annual budget.

## Amendment 12

### Annex I - VI. Overall budget breakdown

In this amendment Parliament proposes a different breakdown from that provided for in the common position, in that the proportion allocated to specific actions is increased from 40 to 50% and the proportion allocated to cooperation agreements reduced from 40 to 30%.

The Commission accepts this amendment, while retaining a degree of flexibility in order to be able to reconcile the Council and Parliament positions on this specific point during the conciliation stage.

## Amendment 14

### Annex II – Horizontal approach

In this amendment Parliament gives an indication of the percentages of the budget to be allocated to the main cultural areas, as a guideline for institutions and cultural operators when implementing the Programme.

The Commission accepts this amendment in so far as the percentages are indicative and aim to make the Programme more transparent.

## **Amendments that can be accepted in part**

### ***Amendments 7, 11, 13.***

#### **\*Amendment 7 Annex I – I.2 Integrated actions covered by structured, multiannual transnational cultural cooperation agreements**

Amendment 7 relates to four different points:

- The list of activities covered by cooperation agreements.
- The number of operators required to make the projects eligible.
- The role of the Committee.
- Community support for the cooperation agreement.

#### **The Commission can accept the parts relating to**

- the number of operators required to make the projects eligible.
- the level of Community support for the cooperation agreement.

#### **The Commission cannot, however, accept the part of the amendment relating to**

- the lists of activities covered by cooperation agreements

an amendment put down by Mr Roy James Perry added the term "heritage practitioners" to the amendment 7 proposed by the rapporteur. Because it is very broad and general, this term greatly expands the list of potential beneficiaries of the programme, making the practical consequences unpredictable.

#### **and the part relating to**

- the role of the Committee. Here, the amendment seems to try to strengthen the role of the Management Committee, specifically as regards the cooperation agreements (insertion of repeated references to its monitoring of this activity).

The Commission cannot accept a procedure which would require those responsible for the projects receiving funding to submit a report of activities undertaken directly to the Committee, given that responsibility for managing the programme rests entirely with the Commission.

## Amendment 11

### Annex I – Contact points

Parliament's aim in this amendment is to emphasise the role and commitment of the contact points to disseminating information among professionals in the cultural field and

encouraging their participation in the programme. In Parliament's view this activity should also be extended to regional level.

The Commission accepts this amendment but on condition that the contact points provide information and interaction at regional level without any further increase in the Community's overall financial contribution and in accordance with the arrangements in force in the various Member States.

#### Amendment 13

##### Annex II – Vertical approach

In this amendment Parliament gives an indication of the percentages of the budget to be allocated to the main cultural areas, as a guideline for institutions and cultural operators when implementing the Programme.

It should be noted that the percentage allocated by this amendment to the field of books and reading would be equivalent to 9% of overall programme funding, which would be significantly less than the amount currently provided for this sector under the Ariane Programme.

The Commission therefore accepts this amendment in principle, but increases from 9 to 11% the proportion allocated to activities in the field of books and reading.

#### **Amendment rejected by the Commission**

#### *Amendment 3*

##### \*Amendment 3 (page 1 of table)

##### Article 3, first paragraph and first paragraph a (new) - Budget

In the first part of this amendment the European Parliament reiterates its proposal made at first reading to increase the overall budget of the Programme from EUR 167 to EUR 250 million.

The Commission cannot accept this proposal, given that the three institutions are bound by the budget planning laid down in Agenda 2000 which can be altered only by the two budgetary authorities - Parliament and the Council.

**PROPOSAL FOR A  
DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL  
ESTABLISHING A SINGLE FINANCING AND PROGRAMMING  
INSTRUMENT FOR CULTURAL COOPERATION POLICY  
(CULTURE 2000 PROGRAMME)**

**AMENDING THE PROPOSAL OF THE COMMISSION  
pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular the first indent of Article 151(5) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,<sup>1</sup>

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions,<sup>2</sup>

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 251 of the Treaty,<sup>3</sup>

(1) Whereas culture has an important intrinsic value to all people in Europe, is an essential element of European integration and contributes to the affirmation and vitality of the European model of society and to the Community's influence on the international scene;

(2) Whereas culture is both an economic factor and a factor in social integration and citizenship; whereas, for that reason, it has an important role to play in meeting the new challenges facing the Community, such as globalisation, the information society, social cohesion and the creation of employment;

(3) Whereas, in view of the growing importance of culture for European society and the challenges facing the Community at the dawn of the 21st century, it is important to increase the effectiveness and consistency of Community measures in the cultural field by proposing a single guidance and programming framework for the period 2000 to 2004, bearing in mind the need for the Community policies concerned to take greater account of culture; whereas, in this respect, the Council Decision of 22 September 1997 regarding the future of European cultural action<sup>4</sup> calls on the Commission to make proposals with a view to establishing a single instrument for programming and financing aimed at the implementation of Article 151 of the Treaty;

(4) Whereas, if citizens give their full support to, and participate fully in, European integration, greater emphasis should be placed on their common cultural values and roots as a key element of their identity and their membership of a society founded on freedom, democracy, tolerance and solidarity; whereas a better balance should be achieved between the economic and cultural aspects of the Community, so that these aspects can complement and sustain each other;

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ C 211, 7.7.1998, p. 18.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 51, 22.2.1999 p.68..

<sup>3</sup> European Parliament opinion of 5 November 1998, Council Common Position of 28 June 1999 and European Parliament Decision of 28.10.1999.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 305, 7.10.1997, p. 1.

(5) Whereas the Treaty confers responsibility on the European Union for creating an ever-closer union among the peoples of Europe and for contributing to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and at the same time bringing the common cultural heritage to the fore; whereas special attention should be devoted to safeguarding the position of Europe's small cultures and less widely-spoken languages;

(6) Whereas the Community is consequently committed to working towards the development of a cultural area common to the European people, which is open, varied and founded on the principle of subsidiarity, cooperation between all those involved in the cultural sector, the promotion of a legislative framework conducive to cultural activities and ensuring respect for cultural diversity, and the integration of the cultural dimension into Community policies as provided for in Article 151(4) of the Treaty;

(7) Whereas, to bring to life the cultural area common to the European people, it is essential to encourage creative activities, promote cultural heritage with a European dimension, encourage mutual awareness of the culture and history of the peoples of Europe and support cultural exchanges with a view to improving the dissemination of knowledge and stimulating cooperation and creative activities;

(8) Whereas there is a need, in this context, to promote greater cooperation with those engaged in cultural activities by encouraging them to enter into cooperation agreements for the implementation of joint projects, to support more closely targeted measures having a high European profile, to provide support for specific and innovative measures and to encourage exchanges and dialogue on selected topics of European interest;

(9) Whereas the Kaleidoscope, Ariane and Raphael cultural programmes set out, respectively, in Decision No 719/96/EC,<sup>5</sup> in Decision No 2085/97/EC<sup>6</sup> and in Decision No 2228/97/EC<sup>7</sup> marked the first positive stage in the implementation of Community action on culture; whereas, however, the Community's cultural endeavours should be simplified and reinforced on the basis of the results of the evaluation and achievements of the above-mentioned programmes;

(10) Whereas, in accordance with the Commission's communication "Agenda 2000", the effectiveness of measures at Community level should be increased, notably by concentrating the resources available for internal policies – including cultural action;

(11) Whereas considerable experience has been acquired, particularly through the evaluation of the first cultural programmes, the wide-ranging consultation of all interested parties and the results of the Cultural Forum of the European Union held on 29 and 30 January 1998;

(12) Whereas the Community's cultural activities should take account of the specific nature, and hence the specific needs, of each cultural area;

(13) Whereas the conclusions of the European Council at Copenhagen on 21 and 23 June 1993 called for the opening of Community programmes to the countries of central and eastern Europe which have signed association agreements; whereas the Community has signed, with some third countries, cooperation agreements which contain a cultural clause;

(14) Whereas this Decision therefore establishes a single financing and programming instrument for cultural cooperation, entitled the "Culture 2000 programme", for the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2004;

---

<sup>5</sup> OJ L 99, 20.4.1996, p. 20.

<sup>6</sup> OJ L 291, 24.10.1997, p. 26.

<sup>7</sup> OJ L 305, 8.11.1997, p. 31.

(15) Whereas this Decision lays down, for the entire duration of the Culture 2000 programme, a financial framework constituting the principal point of reference, within the meaning of point 1 of the Declaration by the European Parliament, the Council and Commission of 6 March 1995,<sup>8</sup> for the budgetary authority during the annual budgetary procedure;

(16) Whereas, in accordance with the subsidiarity and proportionality principles established by Article 5 of the Treaty, as the objectives of this action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, they can therefore, by reason of the scale or effects of the proposed action, be better attained by the Community; whereas this Decision is limited to the minimum required for the attainment of those objectives and does not go beyond what is necessary to that end;

(17) Whereas the Culture 2000 programme should be the only programme operating from the year 2000 in the field of culture; whereas therefore Decision No 2228/97/EC should be repealed,

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### Article 1

##### Duration and objectives

A single financing and programming instrument for cultural ~~cooperation~~ policy, hereinafter referred to as the "Culture 2000 programme", is hereby established for the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2004.

The Culture 2000 programme shall contribute to the promotion of a cultural area common to the European peoples. In this context, it shall support cooperation between creative artists, cultural operators, private and public promoters, the activities of the cultural networks, and other partners as well as the cultural institutions of the Member States and of the other participant States in order to attain the following objectives:

- a) promotion of cultural dialogue and of mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the European peoples;
- b) promotion of creativity and the transnational dissemination of culture and the movement of artists, creators and other cultural operators and professionals and their works, with a strong emphasis on young and socially disadvantaged people and on cultural diversity;
- c) the highlighting of cultural diversity and the development of new forms of cultural expression;
- d) sharing and highlighting, at the European level, the common cultural heritage of European significance, disseminating know-how and promoting good practices concerning its conservation and safeguarding;
- e) taking into account the role of culture in socioeconomic development;
- f) the fostering of intercultural dialogue and mutual exchange between European and non-European cultures;
- g) explicit recognition of culture as an economic factor and as a factor in social integration and citizenship;
- h) improved access to and participation in culture for a wider audience;

The Culture 2000 programme shall further an effective linkage with measures implemented under other Community policies which have cultural implications.

#### Article 2

##### Types of cultural actions and events

The objectives listed in Article 1 shall be achieved by the following means:

- specific innovative and/or experimental actions,

---

<sup>8</sup> OJ C 102, 4.4.1996, p. 4.



- integrated actions covered by structured, multiannual cultural cooperation agreements,
- special cultural events with a European and/or international dimension.

The actions and their implementing measures are described in Annex I. They are either vertical (concerning one cultural field) or horizontal (associating several cultural fields).

#### Article 3

##### Budget

The financial framework for the implementation of the Culture 2000 programme for the period referred to in Article 1 is hereby set at EUR 167 million.

The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial perspective.

#### Article 4

##### Implementation

1. The Commission shall implement the Culture 2000 programme in accordance with this Decision.

**2 The Commission shall be assisted by a committee, composed of representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission 3.**

**Where reference is made to this paragraph, the management procedure laid down in Article 4 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, in compliance with Article 7 (3) and Article 8 thereof.**

**The period provided for in Article 4 (3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be [...]9.**

3. The representative of the Commission shall submit to the Committee draft measures concerning:

- the priorities and general guidelines for all the measures described in Annex I and the annual programme resulting therefrom,
- the general balance between all the actions,
- the selection rules and criteria for the various types of project described in Annex I (Actions I.1, I.2 and I.3),
- the financial support to be provided by the Community (amounts, duration, distribution and beneficiaries),
- the detailed procedures for monitoring and evaluating this programme, together with the conclusions of the assessment report provided for in Article 7 and any other measure readjusting the Culture 2000 programme arising from the assessment report.

4. The Commission may consult the Committee on any other matter concerning the implementation of the Culture 2000 programme not covered by paragraph 3.

The representative of the Commission shall submit to the Committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft within a time limit which the Chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter, if necessary by taking a vote.

The opinion shall be recorded in the minutes; in addition each Member State shall have the right to ask to have its position recorded in the minutes.

---

<sup>9</sup> No more than three months.

The Commission shall take the utmost account of the opinion delivered by the Committee. It shall inform the Committee of the manner in which its opinion has been taken into account.

#### Article 5

##### Consistency and complementarity

In the implementation of the Culture 2000 programme, the Commission shall, in cooperation with the Member States, ensure the overall consistency and complementarity with relevant Community policies and actions having an impact on the field of culture. This could involve the possibility of including complementary projects financed through other Community programmes.

#### Article 6

##### Third countries and international organisations

The Culture 2000 programme shall be open to participation by the countries of the European Economic Area and also to participation by Cyprus and the associated countries of central and eastern Europe in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Association Agreements or in the additional Protocols to the Association Agreements relating to participation in Community programmes concluded or to be concluded with those countries.

The Culture 2000 programme shall also permit cooperation with other third countries which have concluded association or cooperation agreements containing cultural clauses, on the basis of additional funds made available in accordance with procedures to be agreed with the countries in question.

The Culture 2000 programme shall permit joint action with international organisations competent in the field of culture, such as Unesco or the Council of Europe, on the basis of joint contributions and in accordance with the various rules prevailing in each institution or organisation for the realisation of the cultural actions and events listed in Article 2.

#### Article 7

##### Evaluation and monitoring

**Not later than 31 December 2002** ~~During 2002~~ the Commission shall present to the European Parliament, the Council, the Committee of the Regions **and the Economic and Social Committee** a detailed assessment report on the results of the Culture 2000 programme, having regard to its objectives, and accompanied if necessary by a proposal for the amendment of this Decision.

On completion of the Culture 2000 programme, the Commission shall present a report on its implementation to the European Parliament, the Council and the Committee of the Regions. Moreover, the Commission shall present annually a short report monitoring the situation of the implementation of the Culture 2000 programme to the European Parliament, the Council and the Committee of the Regions.

**These assessment reports shall emphasise in particular the creation of added value, particularly of a cultural nature, and the socioeconomic consequences of the Community's financial support.**

#### Article 8

##### Repeal

Decision No 2228/97/EC shall be repealed with effect from 1 January 2000.

#### Article 9

##### Entry into force

This Decision shall enter into force on 1 January 2000.

Done at Brussels, on ...

For the European Parliament  
The President

For the Council  
The President

## **ANNEX I**

### **ACTIVITIES AND IMPLEMENTING MEASURES FOR THE CULTURE 2000 PROGRAMME**

#### **I. Descriptions of actions and events**

##### **I.1. Specific innovative and/or experimental actions**

Each year the Community will support ~~(particularly through grants, seminars and congresses, studies and measures to increase awareness) cooperation projects which originate with cultural operators from several Member States and other participating States events and projects carried out in partnership or in the form of networks.~~ **These projects will involve operators from at least three states participating in the Culture 2000 programme, on the basis of priorities defined after consultation of the Committee referred to in Article 4 of the Decision, without prejudice to offering the associated countries participation in the programme in accordance with the procedures envisaged in Article 6.** These actions will cover in principle a period of one year which may be extended to two supplementary years. These vertical actions (concerning one cultural field) or horizontal actions (associating several cultural fields) should be innovative and/or experimental and aim primarily to do the following:

- i) place the main emphasis on facilitating access to culture and wider cultural participation by the people in Europe, in all their social, regional and cultural diversity, in particular young people and the most underprivileged;
- ii) encourage the emergence and spread of new forms of expression, within and alongside traditional cultural fields (such as music, the performing arts, the plastic and visual arts, photography, architecture, literature, books, reading, the cultural heritage including the cultural landscape and children's culture);
- iii) support projects aimed at improving access to books and reading, as well as training professionals working in the field;
- iv) support projects of cooperation aimed at conserving, sharing, highlighting and safeguarding, at the European level, the common cultural heritage of European significance;
- v) support the creation of multimedia products, tailored to meet the needs of different publics, and thus make European artistic creation and heritage more visible and more accessible to all;
- vi) encourage initiatives, discussions and cooperation between cultural and sociocultural operators working in the field of social integration, especially integration of young people;
- vii) foster an intercultural dialogue and mutual exchange between European and other cultures, in particular by encouraging cooperation on subjects of common interest between cultural institutions and/or other operators in the Member States and those in third countries;
- viii) promote the dissemination of live cultural events using the new technologies of the information society.

Community support may not exceed 60 % of the budget for a specific action. In most cases this support may not be less than EUR 50 000 or more than EUR 150 000 a year.

##### **I.2. Integrated actions covered by structured, multiannual transnational cultural cooperation agreements**

~~With a view to European added value, the Culture 2000 programme will encourage closer cooperation through cultural cooperation agreements. The programme will contribute in particular to the emergence of broad and structured areas of cooperation through the participation of networks of cultural operators, as well as organisations and~~

~~research institutes in the cultural field, in the various Member States and in the other participant States.~~

**The Commission will encourage closer relations and joint working by supporting cultural networks and, in particular, by creating networks of operators, cultural bodies and cultural institutions, involving in particular professionals in different Member States with a view to realising structured cultural projects both within and outside the Community. This measure relates to significant quality projects with a European dimension, involving at least five States participating in the Culture 2000 programme.**

The cultural cooperation agreements will be aimed at carrying out structured, multinational cultural actions, between operators of several Member States and those of other States participating in the Culture 2000 programme. These agreements will concern transnational actions concerning one cultural field (vertical actions), such as music, the performing arts, the plastic and visual arts, literature, books and reading including translation and cultural heritage. They will moreover promote, also by using new media, the achievement of trans-sectoral integrated actions (horizontal actions based on synergy), i.e. associating several cultural fields. The cooperation agreements **proposed in this way for up to three years** will include an annual report on the activities concerned and will involve some or all of the following measures:

- i) ~~co-production and distribution of works and creations, making them accessible to the public;~~ **coproductions of works and other large-scale cultural events (e.g. exhibitions, festivals, etc.), making them accessible to as many EU citizens as possible;**
- ii) ~~movement of artists, creators and other cultural operators;~~ **cultural events and enhancement of cultural sites and monuments within the Community with a view to raising awareness of European culture;**
- iii) ~~further training for professionals in the cultural field and exchange of experience;~~ **activities aimed at developing further education and mobility for professionals in the cultural field (artists, restorers, musicologists, etc.) both in academic and practical terms, including the use of new technologies;**
- iv) ~~research projects, public awareness campaigns, activities for teaching and the dissemination of knowledge, seminars, congresses, meetings on cultural topics of European importance;~~
- iv) ~~use of new technologies;~~
- (v) ~~research, dissemination of knowledge,~~ **projects aimed at highlighting cultural diversity and multilingualism and promoting mutual awareness of the history, roots, common cultural values of the European peoples and their common cultural heritage.**

Following ~~consultation~~ **opinion** of the Committee referred to in Article 4 of the Decision, the Community will grant support for the implementation of cultural cooperation agreements. **It shall be intended to cover not only part of the funding of the project, but also expenses relating to the establishment of lasting cooperation, which may be multiannual, in a legal form recognised in one of the Member States of the Union.** **In order for the agreement to be eligible, the activities it covers must involve operators from at least five Member States participating in the Culture 2000**

**programme, without prejudice to offering the associated countries participation in the programme in accordance with the procedures envisaged in Article 6.**

Community support may not exceed 60% of the cultural cooperation agreement's budget. It may not be ~~less than EUR 200 000 or more than EUR 350 000 a year~~ **more than EUR 250 000 a year.**

This support may be raised by a maximum of 20% in order to cover the relevant costs incurred in the management of the cultural cooperation agreements.

### I.3. Special cultural events with a European or international dimension

These events, substantial in scale and scope, should strike a significant chord with the people of Europe and help to increase their sense of belonging to the same community as well as making them aware of the cultural diversity of the Member States, as well as intercultural and international dialogue.

These events include in particular:

- i) the European Capital of Culture and the European Cultural Month;
- ii) organising symposia to study questions of common cultural interest in order to foster cultural dialogue both inside and outside the Community;
- iii) recognising and highlighting European artistic talent, particularly among young people;
- iv) organising innovative cultural events ~~which have a strong appeal with a major symbolic dimension, accessible to all citizens in general, particularly in the field of cultural heritage, and which in particular provide a~~ **and capable of underlining the link between education, artistic activities, the arts and culture and European history.**
- iv)a **European prizes in the various cultural spheres: literature, translation, architecture, etc.,**
- iv) b **support for projects submitted by the appropriate authorities of the Member States and involving the conservation and safeguarding of the cultural heritage which can be described as "European heritage laboratories",**

The priorities relating to these events will be established after consultation of the Committee referred to in Article 4 of the Decision.

Community support may not exceed 60% of the budget for a special cultural event. It may not be less than EUR 200 000 or more than EUR 1 million a year for the events referred to in item (i). For the events referred to in items (ii) to (iv), the corresponding limits will in most cases not be less than EUR 150 000 a year and in all cases not be more than EUR 300 000 a year. **The indicative allocation for these activities shall be 10% of the financial framework of the programme.**

The three types of actions and events described in I.1, I.2 and I.3 follow either a vertical (concerning one cultural field) or horizontal (associating several cultural fields) approach.

An indicative description of these approaches is provided in Annex II.

### II. Coordination with the other Community instruments in the field of culture

The Commission will ensure coordination with other Community instruments active in the cultural sphere through specific actions, cultural cooperation agreements and special cultural events, mainly with a view to promoting and arranging for collaboration between sectors with common and converging interests, such as for example;

- culture and tourism (through cultural tourism),
- culture, education and youth (in particular, presentations to schools and colleges of audiovisual and multimedia products on European culture, with commentaries by creative or performing artists),
- culture and employment (encouraging the creating of jobs in the cultural sector, especially in the new cultural areas),

- culture and external relations,
- cultural statistics resulting from an exchange of comparative statistical information at Community level,
- culture and internal market,
- culture and research,
- culture and the export of cultural goods.

### III. Communication

Recipients of Community support must mention this support explicitly, and as prominently as possible, in all information or communications relating to the project.

### IV. Technical assistance and accompanying actions

When executing the Culture 2000 programme, the Commission may have recourse to technical assistance organisations for which the financing is planned within the total funding of the programme **which may not exceed 3% of the latter's annual budget.** It may also, under the same conditions, make use of experts or networks of experts.

In addition, the Commission may arrange evaluative studies as well as organise seminars, colloquia or other experts' meetings which might assist with the implementation of the Culture 2000 programme. The Commission may also organise actions related to information, publication and dissemination.

### V. Contact points

The Commission and the Member States will organise on a voluntary basis, and step up, the mutual exchange of information for use in the implementation of the Culture 2000 programme, by means of cultural contact points which will be responsible for:

- promoting the programme,
- **facilitating access to the programme for, and encouraging as many professionals as possible to take part in its projects, participation in its activities by as many professionals and operators in the cultural field as possible, thanks to a genuine dissemination of information;**
- providing an efficient link with the various institutions providing aid to the cultural sector in the Member States, thus contributing to the complementarity between the measures taken under the Culture 2000 programme and national support measures.
- **ensuring contact and interaction at regional level between operators participating in the framework programme and those participating in other Community programmes without increasing the Community's overall financial contribution and in accordance with the arrangements in force in the various Member States.**

### VI. Overall budget breakdown

VI.1. At the beginning of the operation, and no later than 1 March every year, the Commission will submit to the Committee an *ex ante* breakdown of budget resources by type of action, taking into account, to this end, the objectives set out in Article 1 of the Decision.

VI.2. The funds available will be broken down internally subject to the following indicative guidelines:

- a) the funds allocated to specific innovative and/or experimental actions should be around ~~40~~ **50%** of the annual budget for the Culture 2000 programme,
- b) the funds allocated to integrated actions covered by structured, multiannual cultural cooperation agreements should be around ~~40~~ **30%** of the annual budget for the Culture 2000 programme,
- c) the funds allocated to special cultural events with a European and/or international dimension should be around 10 % of the annual budget for the Culture 2000 programme,
- d) the remaining expenditure, including the costs related to the contact points, should be around 10 % of the annual budget for the Culture 2000 programme.

VI.3. All the percentages given above are indicative and may be adapted by the Committee according to the procedure laid down in Article 4 of the Decision.

## ANNEX II

### INDICATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL APPROACHES

The three actions of the Culture 2000 programme represent either a vertical approach (concerning one cultural field) or a horizontal approach (associating several cultural fields).

As an indication, these may be considered in the following manner:

#### I. A vertical approach

This implies a sectoral approach which seeks to take into account the specific needs of each cultural field, in particular:

a) in the following fields: music, the performing arts, the plastic and visual arts, ~~photography, architecture and children's culture~~ as well as other forms of artistic expression (for example, multimedia, **photography, children's culture** and street art).

This approach, according to the individual aspects of each cultural field, should:

- promote exchanges and cooperation between cultural operators,
- aid the movement of artists and their works around Europe,
- improve the possibilities of training and further training, in particular when combined with the improved mobility of those working in the cultural field (**especially teachers and students**),
- encourage creativity, while supporting the implementation of activities promoting European artists and their works in the above-mentioned fields within Europe and favouring a policy of dialogue and exchanges with other world cultures,
- support initiatives which would use creativity as a means of social integration;

**The indicative allocation for these activities will be 35% of the financial framework of the programme.**

(b) as regards books, reading and translation, this approach aims to:

- encourage exchanges and cooperation between institutions and/or individuals from the different Member States and other countries participating in the programme as well as third countries,
- improve awareness and the distribution of literary creation and the history of the European people through supporting the translation of literary, dramatic and reference works (**especially those in the lesser-used European languages and the languages of eastern European countries**),
- encourage the mobility and further training of those working in the books and reading field,
- promote books and reading, in particular in young people and less favoured sectors of society;

**The indicative allocation for these activities will be 11% of the financial framework of the programme.**

c) as regards cultural heritage of European importance, in particular intellectual and non-intellectual, movable and non-movable heritage (museums and collections, libraries, archives, including photographic archives, audiovisual archives covering cultural works), archaeological and subaquatic heritage, architectural heritage, all of the cultural sites and landscapes (cultural and natural goods), this approach seeks to:

- encourage projects of cooperation aimed at the conservation and restoration of the European cultural heritage,
- encourage the development of international cooperation between institutions and/or **individuals, operators**, in order to contribute to exchanges of know-how and the development of best practice as regards conservation and safeguarding the cultural heritage,
- improve access to the cultural heritage, where there is a European dimension, and encourage the active participation of the general public, in particular children, young



people, the culturally deprived and inhabitants from rural or peripheral regions of the Community,

- encourage mobility and training on cultural heritage for those working in the cultural sector,
- encourage international cooperation for the development of new technologies and innovation in the different heritage sectors and as regards the conservation of traditional crafts and methods,
- take heritage into consideration in other Community policies and programmes,
- encourage cooperation with third countries and the relevant international organisations.

**The indicative allocation for these activities will be 34% of the financial framework of the programme.**

II. A horizontal approach

This approach seeks to promote synergy and develop cultural creation, as much through the promotion of trans-sectoral activities involving a number of cultural sectors, as through supporting joint activities involving different Community programmes and policies (in particular those concerning education, youth, professional training, employment, etc.).

**The indicative allocation for these activities will be 10% of the financial framework of the programme.**

COM(1999) 629 final

# DOCUMENTS

**EN**

**16 01 04 05**

---

Catalogue number : CB-CO-99-615-EN-C

---

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities  
L-2985 Luxembourg