Phare

Infocontract n°1

1694 (5)

Introduction to Infocontract n°1

Infocontract aims to provide the business community with the information it requires to interact profitably with Phare.

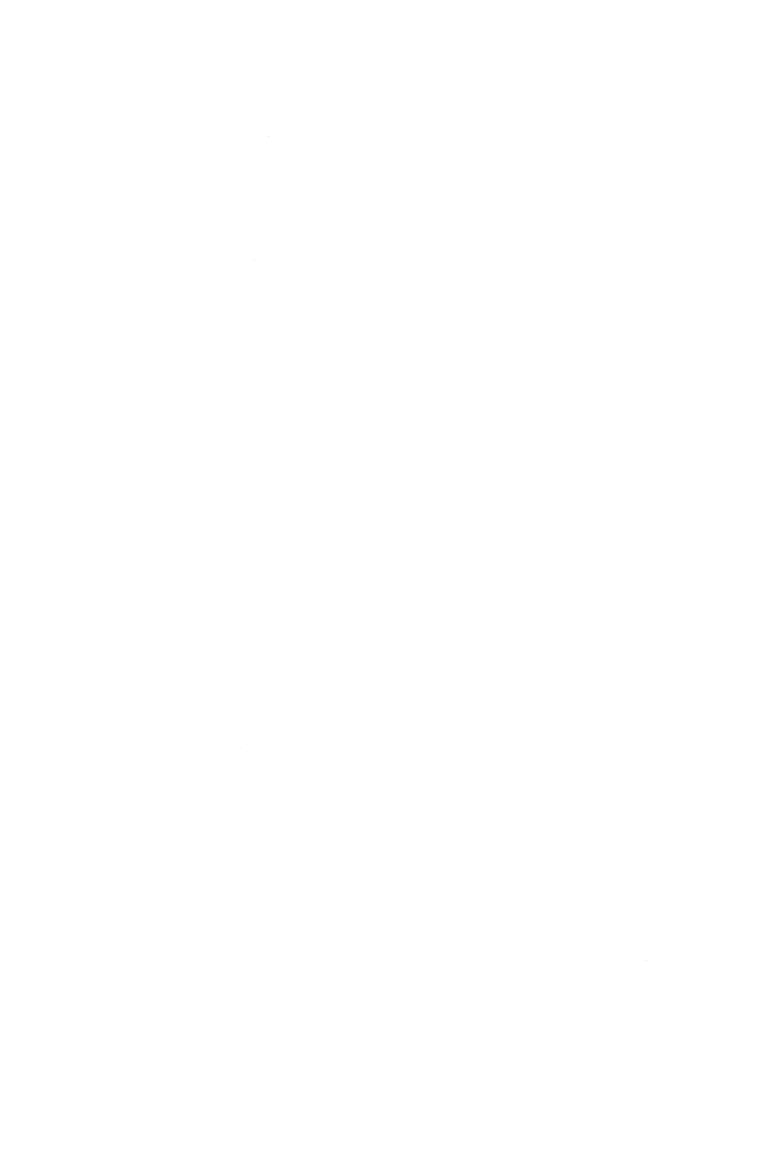
The contractual information to be found in these pages is taken from the financing proposals for the sector programmes and is published after the programmes' approval by the Phare Management Committee.

Infocontract n°1 - 1994 sets out the contractual implications of programmes approved by the Committee at its 29th meeting on 4 May 1994.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the publication of the business-related information in these pages does not commit the partner country or the Commission either to adhere to a fixed timetable for implementation or to follow exactly the outlines traced below. Individuals or companies wishing to obtain more detail on the contractual implications of these programmes should contact the relevant Programme Management Unit that is responsible for implementation of the approved programme. Only individuals or companies registered and resident in European Union Member States or Phare partner countries will be considered for implementing the tasks set out below.

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The Phare Programme

The Phare Programme is a European Union initiative which supports the development of a larger democratic family of nations within a prosperous and stable Europe. Its aim is to help the countries of central and eastern Europe rejoin the mainstream of European development and build closer political and economic ties with the European Union.

Phare does this by providing grant finance to support the process of economic transformation and to strengthen newly created democratic societies. Phare also provides grant finance to help countries with Europe Agreements integrate with the European Union.

In its first five years of operation to 1994, Phare has made available ECU 4,283 million to 11 partner countries, making Phare the largest assistance programme of its kind.

Phare works in close cooperation with its partner countries to decide how funds are to be spent, within a framework agreed with the European Union. This ensures that Phare funding is relevant to each government's own reform policies and priorities. Each country takes the responsibility for running its own programmes.

Phare provides know-how from a wide range of non-commercial, public and private organisations to its partner countries. It acts as a multiplier by stimulating investment and responding to needs that cannot be met by others. Phare acts as a powerful catalyst by unlocking funds for important projects from other donors through studies, capital grants, guarantee schemes and credit lines. It also invests directly in infrastructure, which will account for more Phare funds as the restructuring process progresses.

The main priorities for Phare funding are common to all countries, although everyone is at a different stage of transformation. The key areas include restructuring of state enterprises including agriculture, private sector development, reform of institutions and public administration, reform of social services, employment, education and health, development of energy, transport and telecommunications infrastructure, and environment and nuclear safety. Under the Europe Agreements, Phare funding is being used to make laws compatible with European Union norms and standards, and to align practices.

Regional cooperation on distance education

Duration

1 year

Amount

MECU 3

Implementing

A new Coordinating unit to run the Programme is to

authority

be set up in Budapest

Liaison point

Phare Secretariat

Ministry of Culture and Education

Szalay ut 10-14 1055 Budapest

Tel: (+36-1) 117 59 00 Fax: (+36-1) 266 08 02 Balász Dakja, Director

General measures and pilot courses

ECU 750,000

- measures for the promotion of distance education as a high quality and flexible educational instrument
- staff development programmes
- · needs assessment
- development of two experimental pilot courses to test the feasibility of joint development of core course modules which can be adapted to national requirements and contexts
- establishment of multinational programme committees.

Basic infrastructure ECU 2,000,000

• development of a basic infrastructure for distance education in the participating countries to build up a transnational network, including national contact points.

Regional coordination unit

ECU 250,000

- establishment of a regional coordination unit consisting of a multinational work force from participating countries
- · expenses of meetings of the project's management committee
- short-term technical assistance.

Regional industrial property programme

(extension of the 1992-1994 regional industrial property programme)

Duration

2.5 years

Amount

MECU 2

Implementing

Directorate General for Legal and

authority

International Affairs, European Patent Office

Training ECU 800,000

- training courses and seminars for staff of national authorities in management, documentary search, electronic search techniques and substantive examination of patent applications in the European system
- training courses and seminars for the patent professionals; judges, patent attorneys and other specialists.

Information technology ECU 600,000

Four software modules are required to administer patent and trade mark procedures

- administrative register of patent application
- · financial control and fees
- European integration
- · trade marks.

Documentation, patent information, inter-office cooperation, technical assistance

ECU 500,000

- modernisation of documentation centres to permit satisfactory novelty search levels at minimum cost, in particular by supplementing paper systems with CD-ROMs and online access to a range of commercial databases
- promotion of awareness of industrial property in the region through international symposia and the publication of patent specifications and trade marks on CD-ROM
- development of regional cooperation through an exchange programme involving the offices in the region, in particular for examiners
- technical assistance on project specification, tendering, implementation, legal and institutional advice, work programmes and evaluation of results.

Programme management ECU 100,000

Regional consumer protection programme

Duration

2 years

Amount

MECU 2

Implementing

Université Catholique de Louvain -

authority

Centre de Droit de Consommation

International Organisation of Consumer Unions - Programme for Economies in Transition (IOCU)

Technical assistance for legislative and institutional reform

ECU 600,000

- monitoring of national legislation and policy, institutional and organisational structures and enforcement procedures
- drafting and/or amending legislation and policy with reference to current European Union standards and policies; production of recommendations for improving the application and enforcement of consumer law and policy.

Training and education

ECU 800,000

- national conferences, workshops and seminars, concentrating on practical solutions to specific problems in each beneficiary country, drawing on the experience of European Union experts and case studies from the Union and partner countries
- placements and training sessions in European Union Member States for professionals working in the consumer interest (state employees, lawyers, judges, non-governmental organisations, research institutions, universities)
- exchanges of officers/experts between partner institutions and organisations in the European Union and the beneficiary countries
- publication of background documents and proceedings from training events, training materials for specific national projects, case studies for judges, consumer advisers and lawyers
- publication of the initiatives of organisations in the partner countries and on legal developments in the European Union and the partner countries.

Research, survey and information work

ECU 600,000

- development of a data network recording hazardous products
- research on the hazardous products problem in individual countries, with a view to develop a work programme
- research to implement the exchange of information on legal matters between the partner countries and between existing sources of legislation there and in the European Union
- measures to raise consumer awareness, surveys to assess awareness, public education programmes in each partner country consisting of the circulation of literature and the organisation of consumer information days in major cities

• measures to raise awareness of businessmen (producers, retailers, wholesalers and importers), run in cooperation with national and local chambers of commerce, emphasising the benefits of responding to consumers' needs and explaining both duties and responsibilities.

Regional programme on copyright protection

Duration

2 years

Amount

MECU 2

Implementing

Groupement Européen des Sociétés d'Auteurs

authority

et Compositeurs (GESAC)

International Association for Audiovisual Authors

(AIDA)

Reform of the institutional and legislative framework

ECU 700,000

- audits to prepare new management methods and a more appropriate organisation of the institutional framework to protect copyright and performing rights
- assistance to facilitate the process of reorganising and modernising existing relevant national institutions (public institutions, performing rights societies, cultural bodies and creative artists societies, cultural industries, bodies combating pirating)
- measures to develop the effectiveness and credibility of these bodies and to bring their management systems into line with those in the European Union
- legal assistance in drafting and/or reforming relevant laws and regulations, taking account
 of European Union legislation and legislation of Union Member States in this field
- advice to governmental authorities and parliaments on intellectual property problems aimed at encouraging adoption of appropriate national legislation and accession to international conventions
- assistance to encourage government authorities and parliaments to recognise the need
 for the democratic constitution of bodies responsible for protecting holders of
 intellectual property rights, the need to combat pirating, and the need for legal and
 administrative authorities to support the protection of copyright and performing rights
- media awareness-raising exercise.

Training and promotion of awareness

ECU 800,000

- exchanges of officials and experts between institutions of the European Union and its Member States and institutions in central and eastern Europe
- participation of officials, judges and other experts from central and eastern Europe at international conventions dealing with copyright and related rights
- development of a training programme on copyright and performing rights for individual central and eastern European countries to transfer experience to the staff of local performing rights societies on the collection and payment of royalties and the legal defence of rights
- development of a training programme on the legal aspects of copyright and performing rights for individual central and eastern European countries to train and promote awareness of officials, judges, lawyers and other experts
- seminars and conferences, possibly with the participation of communications media, to raise public awareness. Training and awareness-raising activities will also aim to improve contacts and relations between artists, performers and producers.

Documentation and software

ECU 300,000

Relevant documentation should be provided, including classification and system management through the provision of software, such as:

- texts of European Union legislation (Union directives, regulations and proposals, judgements of the European Court of Justice and other relevant studies relating to policy in this field)
- texts of relevant national legislation and regulations of the European Union Member States
- texts of articles of association and rules of performing rights societies
- materials relating to the seminars organised under the Programme; books on intellectual property
- translation of relevant texts and partial funding for the supply of basic equipment to classify documentation in computerised form.

Energy

Duration

2 years

Amount

MECU 13

Implementing

A permanent programme

authority

Coordination Unit is to be established in Bucharest under

the authority of the Romanian Ministry of Industry (regional energy sector coordinator) Bucharest I

Energy Division Ministry of Industry Calea Victoriei 152

Cod 71101 Bucharest 1

Tel: (+40-1) 650 29 68

Fax: (+40-1) 312 03 21 / 312 05 13 Dr Vigil Musatescu, PIU Director Christian Iliescu, Adriana Miron International Relations Division

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Interconnection of European energy networks

ECU 2,000,000

- assessment of the technical and economic feasibility of concrete investment projects allowing the interconnection of the electricity, natural gas and oil networks, following up the master plans realised under the 1992 and 1993 programmes and in the perspective of co-financing by Phare and the international financing institutions
- feasibility studies for investments in natural gas networks (to be identified later), taking into account environmental and safety standards.

Coordinated approach on energy and environmental issues in the coal sector

ECU 2,000,000

An overall strategy should be developed towards the coal sector, including environmental considerations. The study will assess the least-cost approach to managing coal demand, including social and environmental factors; and the potential for developing clean coal technologies. The project will be managed by a group of specialists from central and eastern Europe and from the European Union.

Harmonisation of European energy policies

ECU 1,000,000

Assistance is required in harmonising the energy policies of central and eastern European countries with those of the European Union Member States. A strategic orientation document will be developed jointly by the European Commission and the beneficiary countries.

Coordination of energy strategies in the Baltic republics

ECU 1,000,000

Following the recommendations of the G 24 Energy working group, the Baltic republics have decided to coordinate their energy policies and support will be given for this initiative.

Development of twinning activities

ECU 5,500,000

Development of twinning programmes on

- the development of local energy consultancy companies
- training and exchanges of experience between officials responsible for licensing and monitoring energy companies
- networking of national energy saving agencies.

Research and development networking

Duration

2 years

Amount

MECU 4

Implementing

European Commission and various designated national

authority

organisations

External connectivity (towards western Europe)

The 1991 Phare-funded research and development networking programme (COSINE) provided Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and former Czechoslovakia with the necessary equipment and services in-country for communication with the outside research and development world. This element would cover:

- extension to Albania, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, including location of access points, switches and nodes connecting to EuropaNet
- reinforcement of the Slovenian internal networking environment
- funding of the first two years' costs of the international lines from the 'nodes' and their maintenance.

The networks of countries already networked will contribute counterpart funds for networking services, determined on a case-by-case basis.

Regional connectivity (between the partner countries)

Regional connectivity may be incorporated into the programme design to encourage and facilitate cooperation between researchers in the central and eastern European countries at minimal cost. This component will be optional and demand-driven.

Internal connectivity (in-country networking)

The national research and development networks of Albania, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovenia are to be strengthened, concentrating on ministerial information offices, industrial organisations, technical libraries and documentation centres, national statistics offices, standards institutes, with close attention being paid to in-country geographical distribution of facilities.

The allocation of the budget will be split in the following manner:

Extension to Albania, the Baltic States

and Slovenia

ECU 1,000,000

Operational costs and upgrading

ECU 2,000,000

Additional infrastructure projects

(for the new countries)

ECU 400,000



