

## Employment Incentive Measures Programme (EIM) 2002-2006

### Brief Summary

The 5-year programme for Community incentive measures in the field of employment (**EIM**) supports co-operation between the **Member States**, the **Acceding** and **Candidate Countries** as well as the **EFTA/EEA Countries** and thereby enables these countries to re-establish the conditions for full employment.

The objectives of the programme activities, which underpin the strategic goals set up by the **Lisbon European Council**, were established by the European Parliament and Council **Decision 1145 of 10 June 2002**. The EIM programme has a **total budget of 60 Million €** for the whole 5-year period.

The main objectives of the EIM are to foster a co-ordinated approach in employment policies through analysis, research and co-operation and to support initiatives carried out in the MS. It also aims at identifying and promoting exchange of good practice in employment policies and at implementing an active information policy, ensuring that the citizens of Europe are fully informed on all aspects of the **European Employment Strategy**.

The EIM is currently subject to an **evaluation** which is going to last until March 2007. This work, which is being carried out by an independent contractor, is of great importance for the European Commission as it gives it an opportunity to evaluate the Community added value, the programme's capacity for transfer and mainstreaming as well as its capacity to disseminate results of the projects under its framework. The outcome of the evaluation will also be of great value for the set-up of a future, much larger programme, **PROGRESS**, which will succeed the EIM as of 1 January 2007.

The decision on EIM also establishes the role of the **EIM Committee**, which consists of representatives from the **Member States (which are full members)**, the **Acceding Countries (Bulgaria and Romania, which are observers)**, and **Turkey (also observer)**. The **EFTA/EEA Countries (Island, Liechtenstein and Norway)** are also represented as **observers** in the EIM Committee, and, like Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, they participate in the EIM programme since 2003.