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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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The Action Programme to promote gender equality 2001-2005

The programme supports the implementation of the Framework Strategy on Gender Equality for the period 2001-2005. Its annual overall budget is slightly over 10 million €. Candidate countries have been progressively involved into it in terms defined in their memorandum of understanding signed with the Commission.

The programme is structured in the three following strands:

- 1 awareness raising activities with a view to reinforce the Community dimension of the promotion of gender equality (e.g. transnational conferences organised by national authorities, EU events)
- 2 analysis and evaluation of gender issues in EU policies and measures (e.g. studies, comparable statistics, indicators, follow up of equal treatment legislation)
- 3 development of the capacity of players to promote gender equality effectively (transnational exchanges of experiences and good practice).

The following annual priority themes have been set in agreement with participating countries for the calls for proposals organised to implement part of strand 1 and strand 3: equal pay in 2001, reconciliation in 2002, women in decision-making in 2003, gender roles and stereotypes in 2004 and the role of men in 2005.

The programme has been prolonged until the end of 2006 and will be replaced by PROGRESS in 2007.

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