



European Commission

Communication COM (97) 539 on “The competitiveness of the construction industry

Explanatory part of the screening

Croatia - Turkey

Brussels, 27-28 March 2006



Structure of the Communication

- Critical issues relevant to the competitiveness of the construction industry
- Action plan addressing following areas:
 - quality procedures and standards
 - regulatory framework
 - education, qualifications and image of the sector
 - R & D, Innovation and knowledge deployment



Implementation

- Policy recommendations on the following themes:
 - The use of quality systems in construction enterprises
 - Abnormally Low Tenders and Economically Most Attractive Tenders in public procurement
 - Education, training and image of the sector
 - Effective innovation in the construction sector
 - Information and communication technology
 - Benchmarking of construction costs and efficiency
 - Sustainable construction and Life Cycle Costs
 - Impact of certain EU policies and legislation on construction competitiveness



Implementation

- Joint EU/Member States/industry working groups
- European Construction Network (ECN): exchange of information relevant for construction (Member States + EU officials)
- Monitoring and Steering Groups for studies granted by the Commission



Suggestions for the screening

- Policy agenda for improving the competitiveness of the construction industry at national level (references; contents; action plan; etc.)
- Most recent initiatives especially concerning productivity measurement, life cycle costing, project partnering, insurance and liability regimes, improving skills
- Dialogue mechanisms with national construction industry



Further information

DG ENTR construction website:

**[http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/
construction/compet/compcon.htm/](http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/construction/compet/compcon.htm/)**

E-mail

- **Antonio.Paparella@cec.eu.int**
- **Construction@cec.eu.int**