



EuroMed Training of Public Administrations

**Regional Training and Consultancy Programme on
Public Administration for the Mediterranean Partners**

EU ADVANCED

COMPETITION POLICY / STATE AID

PROGRAMME

Madrid, 25 - 29 February 2008



**MEDA Programme of the European Commission
(EC)- EuropeAid Co-operation Office**

Programme Management Unit:



**Institut Européen
d'Administration Publique – Centre Européen des Régions (IEAP-CER)**

**European Institute
of Public Administration – European Centre for the Regions (EIPA-ECR)**

INTRODUCTION and GENERAL INFORMATION

The European Centre for the Regions, the Barcelona Antenna of the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), is the Programme Management Unit (PMU) for the "Regional Training and Consultancy Programme on Public Administration for the Mediterranean Partners" (EuroMed Training of Public Administrations) of the European Commission, funded under the MEDA Programme.

The programme is the extension of an initiative submitted to the European Commission starting in 2000 which resulted in the holding of a Conference organised by the ECR in Barcelona on 7 and 8 February 2000 entitled the "Meeting of the Representatives of the Public Administrations of the Euro-Mediterranean Partners in the Framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership".

Objectives

This programme falls under Chapter II of the Barcelona Declaration of November 1995 and aims to provide training on European affairs to Civil Servants from the Southern Mediterranean and the Middle East, while also envisaging the creation of a network of training centres in public administration between the Euro-Mediterranean Partners.

The ultimate objectives of this programme are to contribute to the creation of a free trade area by 2010, to expand the knowledge on EU affairs in the Mediterranean Partners in order to contribute to the implementation of the association agreements, and to develop in the Mediterranean Partners a critical mass of experts in the EU integration process.

With an initial duration of 42 months that has been extended to 60 months by the EC and a budget of 6 million Euros, this programme is aimed at the 10 Mediterranean Partners. It consists of 4 modules: 1) EU Basics; 2) EU Programme Basics; 3) EU Advanced; 4) Train-the-Trainers; and the creation of a network of training centres on public administration.

EU Member States will be involved in this programme through consultancy, participation in training actions whenever necessary as well as through participation in the Network of Euro-Mediterranean Partners Training Institutes.

EU ADVANCED MODULE

Introduction

12 Seminars will be organised on EU ADVANCED. Each seminar will last for 5 days and each will be open to 30 participants. The purpose of these seminars will be to assure a level of advanced knowledge to up to 300 civil servants from the Mediterranean Partners' public administrations. All 12 seminars will be developed around different topics which have been chosen by the National Coordinators of each Mediterranean Partner.

Objectives

The objectives of the EU ADVANCED seminars are:

- To ensure to the participants an in-depth knowledge, in this case in the field of competition, which is of their interest in the framework of the Association Agreements with the EU.
- To enable the participants to have an expert's working knowledge on EU Policies that will qualify them to spread relevant information on these matters as well as to develop a working relation with the EU Institutions and EU Member States on these matters.
- To develop bilateral and multilateral administrative cooperation.
- To encourage an exchange of experience, knowledge and best practices.

Methodology

The contents of the seminar will be:

- a) Introduced by experts and academics from the EU Member States
- b) With a practice oriented focus, and
- c) By means of presentations and case studies

Regional scope

This is a Euro-Mediterranean regional programme and therefore it involves all Euro-Mediterranean Partners. The beneficiaries will be the Mediterranean Partners.

Background documentation

Power point presentations on the contents of the seminar; EU documents; EU web pages.

Participants

The participants at the seminars will be representatives of each Mediterranean Partner public administrations. Every MP can propose up to (3) participants per EU ADVANCED seminar.

The participants should have a practical experience in the field concerned, be knowledgeable of EU affairs and have a good command of the English and/or French language.

They shall as well enjoy enough power to disseminate the received information.

Working languages

English and French, with simultaneous translation.

More information about EIPA and its research and training activities can be found via our website: www.eipa.eu

Seminar venue

Hotel NH LA HABANA
Pº de la Habana Nº 73
ES - 28036 Madrid
Tel.: +34.91.4430720
Fax: +34.91.4577579
www.nh-hoteles.com

Programme Management Unit

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PROGRAMME

Monday 25 February 2008

INTRODUCTORY PRINCIPLES

09.45hrs Welcome and Presentation of the Programme

Stéphanie HOREL, Co-ordinator of the EuroMed Training of Public Administrations Programme; Lecturer, European Institute of Public Administration-European Centre for the Regions (EIPA-ECR), Barcelona (ES)

10.00hrs Presentation of Participants

Participants will be asked to present themselves, their view on the competition policy, the programme and its relevance to their work.

10.50hrs Presentation of the contents and objectives of the seminar

Mihalis KEKELEKIS, Lecturer, European Institute of Public Administration, Maastricht (NL)

11.00hrs Coffee break

11.30hrs Key aspects of the Euro-Mediterranean Process, the MEDA Programme and the Association Agreements

Stéphanie HOREL

13.00hrs Lunch

14.30hrs The EC Competition law rules: An Overview (Part I)

Mihalis KEKELEKIS

15.30hrs Coffee break

16.00hrs The EC Competition law rules: An Overview (Part II)

Mihalis KEKELEKIS

17.00hrs End of the first day

Tuesday 26 February 2008

STATE AID: THE PRINCIPLES

09.30hrs A Schematic Overview of EC State Aid Policy
Mihalis KEKELEKIS

09.45hrs EC Rules on State Aid: Concept, Compatibility criteria and Exceptions
Mihalis KEKELEKIS

11.00hrs Coffee break

11.30hrs Case Study
Mihalis KEKELEKIS

13.00hrs Lunch

14.30hrs EC Rules on State Aid: De minimis, Aid to SMEs
Mihalis KEKELEKIS

16.00hrs Coffee break

16.15hrs Case Study
Mihalis KEKELEKIS

17.45hrs End of the second day

Wednesday 27 February 2008

STATE AID: THE PRINCIPLES (continuation)

09.30hrs Training Aid and Employment Aid

Maria KLEIS, Research Assistant, European Institute of Public Administration,
Maastricht (NL)

10.00hrs Case Study

Maria KLEIS

11.00hrs Coffee Break

11.30hrs Aid for Regional Development and large investment projects

Peter STAVICZKY, Head of State Aid Monitoring Office (SAMO), Budapest
(HU)

12.30hrs Aid for Research & Development & Innovation

Peter STAVICZKY

13.15hrs Lunch

14.45hrs Case Study

Peter STAVICZKY

16.00hrs EC Rules on State Aid: the Procedures

Maria KLEIS

16.45hrs Coffee break

17.00hrs Recovery of State Aid

Maria KLEIS

17.45hrs End of the third day

Thursday 28 February 2008

PRIVATE PRACTICE, CASE LAW AND NATIONAL EXPERIENCES

09.30hrs State Aid: A Practitioner's view

Evelyne AMEYE, Of Counsel Associate, Administrative, Regulatory and Competition Group of Gómez Acebo y Pombo SL, Madrid (S)

11.00hrs Coffee break

11.30hrs National Experiences: Identifying the need for appraisal of state aid

Mary TAIT, State Aid Branch, Department of Trade and Industry, London (UK)
Saskia RAAS, Senior Legal Adviser International, Department of legal Affairs, Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (VROM), The Hague (NL)

13.00hrs Lunch

14.30hrs National Experiences: Case examples

Mary TAIT
Saskia RAAS

16.00hrs Coffee break

16.15hrs Recent Case law of the Community courts in the State Aid area

Jasmine BATTISTA, Legal Secretary in the chambers of Judge Moavero, CFI, Luxembourg

17.15hrs End of the fourth day

Friday 29 February 2008

09.00hrs Presentation by the participants of their experience, organization, best practices to harmonize their legislation with EU state aid rules

Chair: *Mihalis KEKELEKIS*

11.00hrs Coffee break

11.30hrs Conclusions and evaluation and Final Declaration

Mihalis KEKELEKIS and Stéphanie HOREL

13.00hrs End of the Seminar
