

1996-2000 PROGRAMME OF COMMUNITY ACTION ON THE PREVENTION OF AIDS AND CERTAIN OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

1. OBJECTIVE

To contain the spread of AIDS and reduce mortality and morbidity due to communicable diseases, by encouraging cooperation between Member States, promoting cooperation between prevention policies and programmes and supporting the activities of non-governmental organizations, including organizations for people affected by HIV.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Support for projects carried out in the Member States by institutions and organizations which are active in preventing AIDS and other communicable diseases. Support for projects in cooperation with ACCEE and EFTA countries, Cyprus and Malta, international organizations and non-governmental organizations competent in the field of public health or particularly involved in the fight against AIDS and other communicable diseases and the prevention thereof.

3. LEGAL BASIS

Decision No 647/96/EC¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 March 1996 adopting a programme of Community action on the prevention of AIDS and certain others communicable diseases within the framework for action in the field of public health (1996 to 2000).

4. ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

The actions to be implemented have the following objectives:

A) - Surveillance and monitoring of communicable diseases, to help to improve knowledge and dissemination of information and data concerning HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases, the coordination of systems for monitoring these diseases and coordinating Community-level responses, particularly in the event of an epidemic outbreak.

B) - Combating transmission of HIV and other sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs), particularly as regards high-risk environments and behaviour and ensure optimum vaccination cover in the Community for certain communicable diseases.

C) - Information, Education and Training, to help to increase awareness and to improve public information and education, and provide, including with regard to the early detection of communicable diseases, better training for health professionals and relevant personnel .

D) - Support for persons with HIV/AIDS and combating discrimination, to assist efforts to ensure that persons suffering from HIV/AIDS receive assistance in line with their needs and are not discriminated against in any way.

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM

The Commission ensures the implementation of this programme in close cooperation with Member States, and cooperates with the institutions and organizations which are active in preventing AIDS and other communicable diseases.

The Commission is assisted in the implementation of this programme by a Committee, consisting of two members designated by each Member State and chaired by a representative of the Commission.

6. PROCEDURES & CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PROJETS

A) - The project must relate to one or more of the actions provided for in the programme, and the priorities set in the annual work programme decided by the Committee.

B) - The project must produce a real added value for the EC (participation of several Member States, activities conducted jointly or that could be applied in other Member States, etc.)

C) - Priority will be given to large-scale projects, involving public bodies and/or non-governmental organizations competent in the field concerned.

D) - Applications must indicate clearly the projet's objectives, the needs that they meet, the action significance respect others already conducted, the activities envisaged, and the results anticipated.

E) - Closing dates for submission of applications each year: 15 March and 15 September.

