

ANNEX 2

MODEL ANNUAL PROGRAMME

MEMBER STATE: ITALY

FUND: EXTERNAL BORDERS FUND

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

YEAR COVERED: 2007

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1. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME

In conformity with article 23 of Council Decision 574/2007/CE establishing the External Borders Fund, the Responsible Authority develops Annual Programmes which are compliant with the Multi-annual Programme.

In this perspective, the Department of Public Security of the Ministry of Interior, in order to develop the 2007 Annual Programme as well as those of the following years, considered it appropriate to make use of the same inter-institutional network which was used to set up the Multi-annual Programme. This took place through the involvement of the *Drafting Group* which is made up of representatives from Ministry of Interior, the Italian Navy, the Guardia di Finanza (Italian Law enforcement body under the authority of the Minister of Economy and Finance), the Coast Guard, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Carabinieri Force.

As the actions financed by the External Borders Fund listed in this Programme have to be implemented by other national authorities leaving no choice as to who will implement the action, the method of implementation chosen is the Responsible Authority acting as executing body. For this reason, the decision on the selection of the projects is taken by the Responsible Authority itself, which, in association with the other national authorities, will be considered as the final beneficiary.

A single procedure has been established to develop the Annual Programme and select the related projects:

- 1) The *Drafting Group* receives the final list of actions necessary to achieve the Multi-annual Programme's objectives from the potential beneficiaries, in accordance to the already identified priorities and Responsible Authority's strategic guidelines;
- 2) The *Drafting Group* presents the Responsible Authority with the project priorities which are to be accomplished within the pertinent Annual Programme, after having previously pertained assessed the eligibility of actions proposed by the Final Beneficiaries;
- 3) Once the assessment and selection of the project proposals is completed, the Responsible Authority asks the *Drafting Group* to lay out the Annual Programme and transmits it to the European Commission.

The selection criteria represent the instrument through which the Final Beneficiaries' project proposals are selected. These can be financed through the External Borders Fund following a standard form created by the Responsible Authority.

In a general view, the identified selection criteria can be divided into two macro-categories:

- 1) *Eligibility Criteria*: they aim at discarding all those project proposals which are lacking of those elements which are essential to obtain financing from the Fund.
- 2) *Evaluation Criteria*: they aim at ranking the eligible project proposals through the attribution of points and possible weights.

Given that the Final Beneficiaries have already been identified, the *Eligibility Criteria* are:

- Coherence with the Multi-annual Programme Priorities, with the Annual Programme Actions and with the Responsible Authority's strategic guidelines;
- Eligibility of costs;

- Eligibility of target groups.

As for the *Evaluation Criteria*, the following were identified:

- Project conformity with the Member state's situation and necessities;
- Implementation feasibility;
- Financial capacity/feasibility;
- Coherence/complementarities between the project proposals and other actions financed by the EU or by national programmes;
- Identification of adequate indicators for measuring the projects outcomes.

The timing of the evaluation and the role of the evaluators will be described in more details in the *Manual of the Procedures*, which is being prepared and will be finalized after a positive outcome of the MCS procedures assessment.

With respect to the actions amounting to the purchase of supplies and services, the procurement procedures envisaged will respect relevant national and European legislation, namely Italian Legislative Decree 12 April 2006, n.163 (Nuovo Codice Appalti) and European Community Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC.

NOTE: Since actions related to years 2007 and 2008 are actually executed within the same time window, their descriptions within the two years are very similar.

2. ACTIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE PROGRAMME UNDER THE CHOSEN PRIORITIES

2.1 **Actions implementing Priority 1: Support for the further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks of persons at the surveillance of the external borders**

2.1.1 **Upgrade the Italian Coast Guard radio communication system operating on radio frequency bands MF/HF, VHF and UHF.**

(Obj/A)

◆ Purpose and scope of the action

Improve the radio communications reliability and capability between Coast Guard naval/air assets and Operations Centre especially when involved in activities along the Italian southern maritime border and/or outside the national area of responsibility.

While employing ITCG naval assets outside the normal area of operation like the latest FRONTEX missions HERA II, HERA III, INDALO and POSEIDON, many difficulties were faced to guarantee adequate radio communications between naval assets and the Italian Coast Guard Operations' Centre (Coast Guard Headquarters, Coast Guard local commands, other authorities, etc..)

The same difficulties rose during ordinary missions in the Sicily Channel where naval and air assets operate outside the normal coverage of the ITCG

transceivers. Other difficulties rose when there is a need to maintain more radio communications at same time with naval and air assets engaged in more operations.

The communications were only possible using satellite systems with an unacceptable cost increasing.

The upgrade of existing unmanned MF/HF/VHF/UHF remote controlled sites or the realization of new ones is a priority, in order to increase the total reliability of the radio communications system and give appropriate solution to the radio propagation problems.

Also, the link between an unmanned site and its remote controlling station should be dedicated and reliable.

The MF/HF system should be used by different operator according to appropriate sharing policy.

The radio communications assets to be improved will responds to international technical standards (ITU, IEC, ETSI, etc..) in order to guarantee the full compatibility with other means operating on the same bands and owned by other parties.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Coast Guard

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Radio communications effectiveness between naval/air assets and land based operational centre.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility will be given by citing the EC funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 1.264 million euros for 2007 on a total of 4 millions. Community contribution requested for 2007 is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.1.2 Improvement of the technical equipment used for the purposes of detection of forged or counterfeit documents when inspecting at borders.

(Obj/E)

◆ Purpose and scope of the action

Improvement of the technical skills of the staff in charge with controls, for the purposes of optimizing the checks concerning travel documents also upon use of technologically advanced equipment. 5/7 Videospectral comparators for document analysis (Projectina Docucenter); 5/7 Equipments Projectina “Dragon”; 5/7 equipments “FAD SECOM”. Said equipment will be placed in border posts which are most affected by passenger traffic and illegal immigration flows, according with the risk analysis in the field of document fraud (especially maritime ports connected with north Africa and Asia).

◆ Expected grant recipients

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the State Police

◆ Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ Expected quantified results and indicators

Increased detection of forged or counterfeit documents and improvement of staff ability to detect documentary frauds.

◆ Visibility of EC funding

Appropriate visibility will be given by citing the EC funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

The news about the results achieved will be made available via the State police website.

◆ Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate

◆ Financial Information

The total financial requirement for this action 0,448 million euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.1.3 Increase of the fleet of vehicles and of the observation equipment to patrol the unwatched land and sea borders

(Obj/A)

◆ Purpose and scope of the action

Making every possible effort to secure a consistent control of external borders,

ensuring, by means of co-ordinated intervention plans, a prompt spotting of the illegal immigrants crossing those borders.

Reduce illegal crossings of immigrants hidden inside transport means. 60-65 off-road vehicles to be used at the Border Police Offices which are most affected by illegal immigration, 10-12 patrol vehicles.

Border Police Area Offices	Off road vehicles	Patrol vehicles
1^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – TORINO	9	1
2^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – MILANO	11	2
3^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – BOLZANO	2	0
4^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – UDINE	5	0
5^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – ROMA	11	4
6^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – NAPOLI	5	1
7^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera – PALERMO	7	1
8^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera - BOLOGNA	7	1
9^ Zona Polizia di Frontiera - BARI	7	1

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the State Police

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Consistent reduction of illegal immigrants spotted on board of means of transport.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility will be given by citing the EC funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 2,9 million euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2 **Actions implementing Priority 2: support for the development and implementation of the national components of a European Surveillance System for the external borders and of a permanent European Patrol Network at the southern maritime borders of the EU Member States.**

2.2.1 **Improving of satellite communications capability either onboard Navy patrol vessels involved in maritime operations for management of external maritime borders in order to tackle illegal immigration, or at ground anchor station for National Coordination Centre needs. Improving communication capability of Navy Coastal Radar Network with National Backbone Network and integration of both networks by means of digital radio links and IP/MPLS protocol implementation.**
(Obj/A)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

Acquisition of satellite communications terminals onboard Navy vessels involved in anti-illegal immigration, in order to achieve Ku band access across commercial satellite platform (ADSL link), to gain appropriate bandwidth for the needs of exchange multimedia data between ships managed in external borders and national operation centre in Rome; Improvement of back-up broadband communication capability for each site of Navy Coastal Radar Network by microwave radio link (SDH- 155 Mbit/s) linking next point of presence of National Backbone Network;

Acquisition of IP/MPLS protocols equipment and mechanism to achieve adequate Quality of Service (QoS) in order to improve the speed of routing of data from the Navy vessels involved in anti-illegal immigration (through satellite equipment) to the Navy NCC of “S. Rosa” in Rome, and from Navy Coastal Radar Network.

The ultimate purpose of the above mentioned actions is to build up a robust, reliable and fast network from the vessels involved in anti-illegal immigration and the operation centers ashore.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Italian Navy

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Allow the National Coordination Centre to get the best maritime situation awareness through an integrated stream of data, voice and video.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

- ◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

- ◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 3,900 million euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2.2 Implementation and realisation of the European Patrols Network Coastal Search Radar Network for the coverage of the central– northern Adriatic, western Liguria and western Sardinia.
(Obj/A)

- ◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

The realisation of the Guardia di Finanza coastal radar network aims at covering by surveillance of all the national coastal areas currently restricted to certain flat. This project will give to the Local Operational and Coordination Point (LOC's) of the European Patrols Network (each located in Genova, Cagliari, Messina, Taranto and Trieste) and to the National Coordination Centre, where all the Administration involved in the managing of the illegal immigration are represented, a clear maritime situational awareness with radar picture and, when available, the infrared video.

- ◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Guardia di Finanza

- ◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

- ◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Capability extensions of the Guardia di Finanza command, control, communication and information system named C4I for the search and surveillance of specific maritime border areas in order to increase checks and optimise the use of Air-Naval Resources for prevention and for the fight against illegal trafficking carried out at sea. This action will extend the Italian capability to detect all the interesting targets and will be available for the 5 Local Operational and Coordination Point and, at the same time, available for the National Coordination Centre as indicated in the Multiannual programme at the Para 2.1 and 2.2.

A 70 mile coverage of the central – northern Adriatic, western Liguria and western Sardinia coastlines, which happen to be the following LOC competent

areas: Trieste, Genoa and Cagliari.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

This project is thought to complete the national coastal radar network in favour of the Local Operational and Coordination Point (Genova, Cagliari, Messina, Taranto, Trieste) of the European Patrols Network project. It will cover the areas outside the range of the Navy coastal radar network.

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 5,707 million euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2.3 Acquisition of operative car to tackle, on the coastline, the illegal immigration.

(Obj/A) (Fiat Bravo 1.6 MTJ 120 Cv).

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

The realisation of a second line of defence on the coastline in the areas mostly interested by illegal flows. In particular the operative vehicles will be used to control the coastline into areas much affected by illegal immigration flows such as Lampedusa island, the south part of Sicily, the eastern coast of Apulia or the Ionian coast of Calabria. This kind of vehicles will be operative car equipped with: special battery to support the major electric power, two blue flashing headlight, searching headlight with control inside the car and remote control, two props for guns, bitonal horn, colour of the Italian Guardia di Finanza. Those will be deployed in the territorial Comands of Cagliari (n. 5), Oristano (n.1), Trapani (n. 3), Agrigento (n. 5), Siracusa (n. 4), Ragusa (n. 4), Catania (n. 4), Catanzaro (n. 2), Reggio Calabria (n. 8), Crotona(n. 2) and Vibo Valentia (n. 2).

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Guardia di Finanza

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Improvement and extensions of the National capability to tackle and to react to any problems also the transportation of the migrants to the identification Centres.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 1,008 millions euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2.4 Acquisition of 3 operative coastal vessel to patrol the southern borders of Italy.

(Obj/A)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

The improvement of the second line of defence inside the territorial sea and in the contiguous in the areas mostly interested by illegal flows. These are coastal vessel class “2000” that will be deployed primarily in Sicily and south Italy. Those will be used to control the territorial water and the contiguous zone.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Guardia di Finanza.

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Improvement and extensions of the National capability to find, search and tackle, at sea, the illegal immigration and, when needed, to save the life at sea.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 3,150 millions euros for 2007.

2.2.5 Enhance the Coast Guard already existing maritime traffic control systems (and related systems) capability and reliability.

(Obj/A)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

Increase the overall effectiveness, capability and reliability of the maritime traffic control systems used for compiling a detailed maritime picture.

Increase information sharing capability in order to exchange data with other Agencies involved in the maritime border surveillance. The Coast Guard manages several systems for maritime traffic monitoring, as indicated in MAP § 1.3.2. In order to share data and information acquired by the above mentioned systems with other Administrations involved in maritime border surveillance, there is a need to improving the systems with a view to acquire a full capability for data information exchanging.

Whenever possible the data exchange will be carried out according to international technical standards in order to guarantee the full compatibility with other similar systems already operating in EU member States.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Italian Coast Guard

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Maritime traffic information exchange with several agency with high level of availability and reliability.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 1,00 million euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2.6 Strengthening the transfer network infrastructure and extending SIA and VISA procedure to the benefit of the Immigration Offices and Border Police offices operating in central and northern Italian regions.
(Obj/D)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

The presence and the expansion of transmission resources which are technologically more performing (optical fibre) will facilitate, by means of a broadband, the extension of SIA procedure to all Border Police offices (see annex 4 to the Schengen Border Code) as well as to immigration authorities (State Police)

The need to have more technologically advanced resources to be allocated to the regions of central and northern Italy is due to the fact that only 20% of all illegal immigrants arrive at south Italian regions, whereas 80% enter illegally by not sufficiently surveilled land or sea routes of central and northern Italy. It will also give the possibility to use better the most technologically advanced devices to read biometrical data (VISA), electronic documents and to detect false and falsified documents. (See MAP 1.1.18 and 2.2 (Obj/D)).

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the State Police

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

The success achieved by the project will be measured by the Italian Police offices' good results in stopping traffic congestion and reducing the long time wait for the necessary controls.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

National and international meetings and conferences for the presentation of the project and the results achieved. Use of the EC logo in the papers issued, and publicity through the State Police website.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

PON (QCS 2000/2006) – Project “Security for the development of the South of Italy”

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 22,303 million euros for 2007. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2.7 Acquire 4 offshore patrol vessels.

(Obj/A)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

Increase the Coast Guard long range maritime patrol capability.

These are vessel class “300” specialized on patrolling and surveillance with any weather condition in high sea, that will be deployed primarily in Sicily and south Italy to counter illegal immigration .

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is Italian Coast Guard

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Increase border security and life safeguard at sea.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 0.268 million euro for 2008 out of a total of 8.0 million. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.2.8 Upgrade and enhance the Italian Coats Guard Command & Control System.

(Obj/A)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

The Italian Coast Guard receives and manages a number of maritime traffic data.

It will bring together the information systems into a single system of command and control, in order to have a vision unit scenario of maritime interest, so that we can better coordinate the aero-naval resources involved in monitoring and surveillance to combat illegal immigration and acquire relevant information with

respect to the evolving situation on the ground close to, at and immediately beyond the external borders.

The positions of the Coast Guard aero-navals and targets of interest will be visible in the integrated command and control. This system will allow better identification of areas of surveillance, better coordination of all the means involved illegal immigration and make better use of existing radio-communication systems.

In particular, the objectives to be achieved by the system are:

- A better planning and management activities involving several aircraft and ships belonging to ITCG and other organizations;*
- Strengthening cooperation between ITCG and other agencies involved in counter illegal immigration;*
- Acquisition and merger of data from a number of information systems (ARES, VTS, AIS, VMS - as reported in paragraph 1.3.2 "Resources to counter illegal immigration by sea "of the multiannual program) in order to obtain useful information on maritime traffic;*
- Exchange of information with other agencies;*
- Standardize the procedures for planning and management of accidents by operators system.*

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is Italian Coast Guard

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

Increase border security and life safeguard at sea.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 1.2 million euro for 2008. Community contribution is 50% of the total financial requirement.

2.4 **Actions implementing Priority 4: support for the establishment of IT systems required for implementation of the Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas.**

2.4.1 **Visa application software development and maintenance. (Specific priority 4/2)**

(Obj/C)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

To update and maintain RMV 8.2x application software needed to process visa application; to allow the development of a new generation RMV 9.x visa software, up-to-date with current technological standards and able to support VIS functionalities.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

1) Performing maintenance of current RMV8.2x software platform (MAC activity) in order to meet SLAs for availability and accuracy; 2) Functional and technological updating of current RMV8.2x platform (MEV activity) in order to get new VIS-compliant RMV 9.x application software; 3) Development and maintenance of application functions in official central and CP web sites, to allow interactions with visa applicants.

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued and on web sites of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

N. A.

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 0,61 million euros for 2007. Community contribution requested for 2007 is 0,46 million euros (75%).

2.4.2 Visa system management, including networking and outsourcing services; user support services. (Specific priority 4/2)

(Obj/C)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

To manage the Visa information system and to support end users, to allow proper working of visa issuing activity.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

1) RIPA network implementation and deployment, for supporting CPs connection to central site; 2) RMV system management and user (CP operators) support for RMV I.S. in order to meet required SLAs; 3) Set-up of ICT outsourcing services (both hosting and housing) for selected components (FEVIS and VIS-LNI systems) of VIS national system, shared between different Ministries; 4) Project management and security management services for VIS IT project deployment

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued and on web sites of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

N. A.

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 0,61 million euros for 2007. Community contribution requested for 2007 is 0,46 million euros (75%).

2.4.3 Purchasing of IT hardware equipment and system software for supporting consular posts VISA activities. (Specific priority 4/2)

(Obj/C)

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

To purchase hardware and system software required by the VIS programme; this includes enhancements to the current hardware and system software platform in order to improve system availability.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

◆ **Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body**

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

◆ **Expected quantified results and indicators**

- 1) *Purchasing of workstations, passport readers and other peripherals to improve work productivity at CPs;*
- 2) *Upgrading of system platform for RMV both at central site and CPs in order to improve system availability.*

◆ **Visibility of EC funding**

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all documentation issued and on web sites of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

◆ **Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate**

N. A.

◆ **Financial Information**

The total financial requirement for this action is 0,72 million euros for 2007. Community contribution requested for 2007 is 0,54 million euros (75%).

2.5 Actions implementing Priority 5: support for effective and efficient application of relevant Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas, in particular the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas.

2.5.1 Development of a training programme based both on traditional and e-learning tools for education of CP operators on visa software and Schengen visa (Obj/B) regulations.

◆ **Purpose and scope of the action**

Development of a training programme based on traditional and e-learning tools for Consular Post and border personnel on Schengen EU legal instruments, with a special reference to the Schengen Border Code and Visa Code.

◆ **Expected grant recipients**

When the responsible Authority acts as executing body, it is the responsible Authority itself who is the final beneficiary legally speaking. The competent associated Authority, who is de facto the grant recipient, is the Italian Ministry of

Foreign Affairs

- ◆ Where appropriate, justification regarding projects implemented directly by the responsible authority as an executing body

The Responsible Authority acts as an executive body in relation to the action as it requires specific skills which exclusively pertain to the functions and institutional activities for which National Authority are exclusively competent (article 7,8 of Implementing Rules 2008/456/CE – SOLID/2008/2 REV).

- ◆ Expected quantified results and indicators

1) Development and release of web-base training (WBT) tools covering Schengen visa procedures and usage of RMV I.S. for CP operators; 2) Development and execution of traditional (class-based) training on the same subjects.

- ◆ Visibility of EC funding

Appropriate visibility to the EC funding will be given by citing the EC co-funding and inserting the EC logo on all training tools and documentation.

- ◆ Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate

N. A.

- ◆ Financial Information

The total financial requirement for this action is 0,380 million euros for 2007. Community contribution requested for 2007 is 0,190 million euros (50%).

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

4.1. Purpose of the technical assistance

In accordance with art.17 of Decision of Council 2007/574/CE, the Ministry of Interior intends to use Technical Assistance for the preparation, management, monitoring, assessment, information and control and to strengthen the administrative capacity for implementing External Borders Fund.

The Technical Assistance is organized in order to ensure support and coordination of activities related to management, payments, checks and contracts, based on the organizational structure outlined by the Responsible Authority. Therefore, it is aimed at supporting the implementation and management of the Fund, monitoring and evaluating its progress and ensuring the use of efficient management and control procedures.

In particular, the Technical Assistance is finalized at:

- Providing technical and specialist support to Responsible Authority

It is an aid both in the planning phase, through the assistance in setting priorities, analysis procedures and defining of procedure for the selection of projects, and in implementation phase of the Programme.

The Technical Assistance provides support in defining and implementing procedures and operational tools that can optimize the management and timely implementation of interventions by all Final Beneficiaries involved, and in the detection of critical situations and identification of the appropriate lines of action to resolve them.

The implementation is supported by constant financial, physical and procedural monitoring activities, which are necessary to ensure the proper management of the Program and in supporting the preparation of tools and methodologies for carrying out financial controls and verifying the management and control systems.

In addition, the technical assistance supports the Administration in analyzing the impacts of interventions which are included in the Multi-annual programme.

- Providing technical and specialist support to Certification Authority

The technical support to the Certification Authority in monitoring the merits and fairness of expenditure statements received by Responsible Authority, through the establishment of procedures and operational instruments for the verification that these costs result from accounting systems reliable and are based on verifiable evidence, have been subjected to a check of eligibility on the basis of national legislation and community and have been selected according to pre-selection criteria (according to art. 31 of Decision of Council 2007/574/CE).

This activity is propedeutic the drafting, certification and submission of statements of expenditure to the European Commission by the Certification.

It also provides support in the definition of procedures and operational tools for recovering unduly spent amounts through the operations of compensation and reimbursement as a result of total or partial cancellation of contributions.

- Providing technical and specialist support to Audit Authority

It's an aid that will not affect directly the activities of auditing (spot checks and documentary), carried out independently by the staff of the Authority, but will assist the same in the definition of methodologies and operational instruments for carrying out activities audits. Audit Authority is responsible of these activities and in preparing the report at the end of each annual programme, opinions on the effective functioning of Management and Control System and reporting on the final balance (according to art. 32, par. 3, of Decision of Council 2007/574/CE).

The amount devoted to technical assistance for the year 2007 in accordance with the provisions of the Decision 2007/574/CE (art. 17), is equal to 7% of total annual co-financing.

The amounts destined to technical assistance could finance several different activities; for example the Member State, within the limits specified in Article 18 of the basic act, might allocate the resources, averagely, as follows:

- 55% of this amount might be used for expenditures relating to the preparation, selection, appraisal, management and monitoring of actions (including computer equipment and consumables);
- 20% of this amount might be used for expenditure relating to audits and on-the-spot checks of actions or projects (both carried out by the Responsible Authority and by the Audit Authority);
- 10% of this amount might be used for expenditure relating to evaluations of actions or projects;
- 5% of this amount expenditure relating to information, dissemination and transparency in relation to actions;
- 10% of this amount might be used for expenditure on meetings of monitoring committees and sub-committees relating to the implementation of actions. This expenditure may also include the costs of experts and other participants in these committees, including third-country participants, where their presence is essential to the effective implementation of actions.

The procurement procedures envisaged for the technical assistance will respect relevant national and European legislation, namely Italian Legislative Decree 12 April 2006, n.163 (Nuovo Codice Appalti) and European Community Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC.

4.2. Expected quantified results

Technical assistance will provide a valuable support to the Administration in the management of External Borders Fund, and contribute to proper management of the same, timely monitoring, information and control and to strengthening the administrative capacity and transfer of know - how.

The valuation process could be useful support to the administration in the analysis of the outcomes and the impacts of the Annual Programme.

4.3. Visibility of EC funding

As established by the European Commission, co-financing from the Fund should be immediately recognizable for each action activated in the EBF.

At the same time, also for Technical assistance, recipients of funding will be made aware of the need for adequate publicity for the Fund, to inform the government / bodies and their employees compared to co-financing of projects by the EIF and the obligation to include in

each project information document attesting financing activities by the Fund, in accordance with the Decision of Council 2007/574/CE.

The Responsible Administration will provide information tools through broad and easy access (e.g. web site) to publish information on the Annual Programme on the actions undertaken under the External Borders Fund and on Final Beneficiaries according to art.33 (par. 2) of Decision of Council 2007/574/CE.

According to Art.34 of Decision of Commission C (2008) 789, 5 March 2008, the Final Beneficiaries will ensure adequate publicity of the activities and actions co financed by the EBF.

The Responsible Authority will perform an informative activity for the Multi-annual Programme and will diffuse the achievements of actions part of Programme.

5. DRAFT FINANCING PLAN (*)

The objectives related to this annual programme will be finalized according to the follow scheme:

<i>Annual programme- Draft Financial Plan</i>								
<i>Table 1 - Overview table</i>								
<i>Member State: Italy</i>								
<i>Annual programme concerned : 2007</i>								
<i>Fund: External Border Fund</i>								
<i>All figures in euro</i>	<i>Ref. Priority</i>	<i>Ref. Specific priority (1)</i>	Community Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d= a+b+c)	% EC (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)
<i>Action 2.1.1</i>	1		632.000,00	632.000,00		1.264.000,00	50%	2,6%
<i>Action 2.1.2</i>	1		224.000,00	224.000,00		448.000,00	50%	0,9%
<i>Action 2.1.3</i>	1		1.450.000,00	1.450.000,00		2.900.000,00	50%	5,9%
<i>Action 2.2.1</i>	2		1.950.000,00	1.950.000,00		3.900.000,00	50%	8,0%
<i>Action 2.2.2</i>	2		2.853.840,00	2.853.840,00		5.707.680,00	50%	11,7%
<i>Action 2.2.3</i>	2		504.020,00	504.020,00		1.008.040,00	50%	2,1%
<i>Action 2.2.4</i>	2		1.575.000,00	1.575.000,00		3.150.000,00	50%	6,4%
<i>Action 2.2.5</i>	2		500.000,00	500.000,00		1.000.000,00	50%	2,0%
<i>Action 2.2.6</i>	2		11.151.690,00	11.151.690,00		22.303.380,00	50%	45,7%
<i>Action 2.2.7</i>	2		134.000,00	134.000,00		268.000,00	50%	0,5%
<i>Action 2.2.8</i>	2		600.000,00	600.000,00		1.200.000,00	50%	2,5%
<i>Action 2.4.1</i>	4	2	460.000,00	153.335,00		613.335,00	75%	1,3%
<i>Action 2.4.2</i>	4	2	460.000,00	153.335,00		613.335,00	75%	1,3%
<i>Action 2.4.3</i>	4	2	540.000,00	180.000,00		720.000,00	75%	1,5%
<i>Action 2.5.1</i>	5		190.000,00	190.000,00		380.000,00	50%	0,8%
<i>Technical assistance</i>			1.685.779,82	1.685.779,82		3.371.559,64	50%	6,9%
<i>Other operations (2)</i>						0,00		
TOTAL			24.910.329,82	23.936.999,82	0,00	48.847.329,64	51%	100,0%

- (*) The budget amount expressed herein is for the complete realization of each project
- (1) If appropriate
 - (2) If appropriate