



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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## **Council adopts EU's competitiveness and innovation programme for 2007-2013**

The Council adopted today<sup>1</sup> a decision establishing a competitiveness and innovation framework programme (CIP) for the years 2007 to 2013 (3622/06) accepting all amendments voted by the European Parliament at first reading, under the Council-Parliament codecision procedure.

The programme is aimed at:

- fostering the competitiveness of enterprises, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs);
- promoting all forms of innovation including eco-innovation;

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<sup>1</sup> The decision was adopted, without discussion, at the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council meeting.

# **P R E S S**

- accelerating the development of a sustainable, competitive, innovative and inclusive information society;
- promoting energy efficiency and new and renewable energy sources in all sectors including transport.

These objectives will be pursued through the implementation of three specific programmes:

- the entrepreneurship and innovation programme, which provides for new types of financial instruments aimed at supporting SMEs;
- the information and communications technology policy support programme, focusing on the development of coordinated actions, the sharing of good practices and the deployment of interoperable solutions within Europe's information society;
- the intelligent energy-Europe programme, aimed at fostering sustainable development, security of supply and competitiveness as relates to energy.

The total budgetary envelope amounts to € 3.2 billion<sup>1</sup> for the seven-year period, of which 60% is for implementation of the entrepreneurship and innovation programme (approximately one fifth of which to promote eco-innovation), and 20% each for the other.

The CIP is designed to contribute to the enhancement of competitiveness and innovation capacity in the EU and advancement of the knowledge society and sustainable development based on economic growth, in line with the EU strategy for growth and jobs. It will be complementary to the Community framework programme for research and technological development for 2007-2013.

The 2005 Spring European Council called for the new programme to lend the necessary impetus to innovation throughout the EU by establishing a new mechanism for financing innovative SMEs with a high growth potential, by streamlining and strengthening the technical support network for innovation in undertakings, and by supporting the development of regional centres and European networks for innovation.

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<sup>1</sup> In 2004 prices.