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DECISION CONCERNING EDUCATION - TEMPUS II

The Council adopted a Decision adopting the second phase of the trans-European co-operation scheme for higher education (TEMPUS II) (1994-1998).

TEMPUS II, adopted for a period of four years as of 1 July 1994, concerns the countries of Central and Eastern Europe designated as eligible for economic aid by Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 (PHARE programme), and the Republics of the former Soviet Union as defined in Regulation (EEC, EURATOM) No 2517/91 (TACIS programme). Based on an assessment of the specific situation of each country, the Commission will in accordance with the procedures laid down in the abovementioned Regulations, agree with the eligible countries concerned whether they should begin to participate in TEMPUS II and the general scope and nature of their participation, in the context of the national programming of Community assistance for social and economic reform.

The objectives of TEMPUS II are to promote, as part of the overall objectives and guidelines of the PHARE and TACIS programmes in the context of economic and social reform, the development of the higher education systems in the eligible countries, through as balanced a co-operation as possible with partners from all the Member States of the Community. Specifically, TEMPUS II seeks to help the higher education systems of the eligible countries to address:

- (a) issues of curriculum development and overhaul in priority areas;
- (b) the reform of higher education structures and institutions and their management;
- (c) the development of skill-related training to address specific higher and advanced level skill shortages during economic reform, in particular through improved and extended links with industry.

The Decision requires the Commission to submit, before 30 April 1996, an interim report and possibly also a proposal for the continuation or adaptation of TEMPUS for the period beginning 1 July 1998 and a final report by 30 June 1999.
