

MODEL CONTRACT

Thematic Networks

CONTRACT NO _____

The [European Community] [European Atomic Energy Community]("the Community"), represented by the Commission of the European Communities ("the Commission"), itself represented for the signature of this contract by [Mr (*name*)] [Ms (*name*)], Director-General for [*name of the DG*] or [his] [her] duly authorised representative,

of the one part

and

- [*name of principal contractor*] ([*acronym*]) ("the *coordinator*"), established in [*name of State and full address*], represented by its legal/statutory/authorised representative[s], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*],
- [*name of principal contractor*] ([*acronym*]), established in [*name of State and full address*], represented by its legal/statutory/authorised representative[s], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*],
- [*name of principal contractor*] ([*acronym*]), established in [*name of State and full address*], represented by its legal/statutory/authorised representative[s], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*],
- [*name of principal contractor*] ([*acronym*]), established in [*name of State and full address*], represented by its legal/statutory/authorised representative[s], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*],
- [*name of principal contractor*] ([*acronym*]), established in [*name of State and full address*], represented by its legal/statutory/authorised representative[s], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*], [Mr/Ms [*insert name*], [*function*],

(collectively "*the principal contractors*"),

of the other part,

(collectively "*the contracting parties*")

HAVE AGREED to a project called "[*name of project*]" consisting in a "thematic network" to be carried out in the framework of the specific research and technological development programme/ specific research and training programme "[*name of specific RTD/RTDT programme*]" (the "specific programme") according to the following provisions.

Article 1 - Scope

The *principal contractors*¹ shall carry out the work set out in Annex I to this contract [up to the milestone specified in Annex I] [up to [*specify the milestone*]] ("*the project*") in accordance with the conditions set out in this contract. [Annex I to this contract may be revised following each milestone specified in this Annex]

Subject to cases of *force majeure*, the *principal contractors* shall use reasonable endeavours to achieve the results aimed at by the *project* and shall carry it out jointly and severally vis-à-vis the Community.

Without prejudice to the first paragraph, *principal contractors* may entrust the performance of part of the work set out in Annex I to this contract to *members* in accordance with the conditions of Article 5 of Annex II. *Members* shall use reasonable endeavours to carry out the part of the work that is specifically assigned to them.

The *principal contractors* shall be technically and financially responsible for their *members* in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in Articles 5, 21 and 22 of Annex II to this contract and in their membership agreement.

Article 2 - Duration

1. The *duration of the project* shall be [*insert number*] months from [the first day of the month after the last signature of the *contracting parties*] [*insert date*].
2. This contract shall enter into force following its signature by all the *contracting parties*.

This contract shall be completed on the date of the final payment of the Community's financial contribution. However,

- Articles 5, 6 and 8 of this contract,
- Article 2(1), first subparagraph, points (a), (e) (f), and (g) Article 2(2)(c) and (j), Article 3(4) and (5), Article 4(5), Article 6, Articles 10 to 16, and Articles 16 and 20 of Annex II to this contract

shall continue to apply after that date subject any limitations specified in those Articles.

Article 3 - Estimated costs and maximum financial contribution of the Community

1. The total estimated eligible costs of the *project* are EUR [*insert amount*] ([*insert amount in words*] euro).
2. The Community shall fund the eligible costs of the *project* in accordance with the table of the indicative breakdown of the estimated eligible costs which follows the signatures affixed to this contract up to a maximum of EUR [*insert amount*] ([*insert amount in words*] euro).

¹ The terms in italics are used in accordance with the definition given in Article 1 of Annex II to this contract.

3. The Community's financial contribution to the *project* shall be paid as specified in Article 3 of Annex II to this contract to the *coordinator's* bank account:

[*Coordinator's bank details*]

The initial advance for the *project* is fixed at EUR [*insert amount*] (*insert amount in words* euro). It shall be distributed among the *principal contractors* in accordance with the indications laid down in the table of the indicative breakdown of the estimated eligible costs.

The total amount of the initial advance and the periodic payments shall not exceed the maximum amount of the financial contribution referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, less a guarantee retention. The guarantee retention shall be 15% of the maximum amount of that contribution.

Article 4 - Project deliverables and summary statements of amounts transferred by the coordinator to be submitted to the Commission

1. [[*insert number*] copies of the reports and [*insert number*] copies of the cost statements][[*insert number*] copies of the reports and of the cost statements] required under this contract shall be submitted by the *coordinator* in accordance with Article 4 of Annex II to this contract. The reports shall be in [*insert language*].

Annex I shall determine the number of copies and the language of drafting of the other *project deliverables*.

2. The periodic and final report(s), the corresponding cost statements, including each integrated cost statement, as well as each summary statement of amounts transferred to the *principal contractors* by the *coordinator* shall cover [successive periods of [*insert number*] months from the *project commencement date*] [a first period ending on [*insert date*], and thereafter successive periods of [*insert number*] months].

Where the work is completed before the end of the *duration of the project*, the final report(s) and the corresponding cost statements, including the integrated cost statement, as well as the summary statement of amounts transferred to the *principal contractors* by the *coordinator* shall cover the period ending on that date.

However, and without prejudice to the first or second subparagraphs of this paragraph, the last cost statement of the *coordinator* and the integrated cost statement shall also cover the period necessary for the drafting of the final report(s) within the maximum time-limit of two months as of the end of the *duration of the project*.

The other *project deliverables* shall cover the periods set out in Annex I to this contract.

Article 5 - Applicable law and jurisdiction

1. The law of [*law of competent authorising officer*] shall govern this contract.
2. The Court of First Instance of the European Communities and, in the case of an appeal, the Court of Justice of the European Communities shall have sole jurisdiction to hear any disputes between the Community, on the one hand, and the *principal contractors*, on the other hand, as regards the validity, the application or any interpretation of this contract.

Article 6 - Special conditions

[No special condition applies to this contract.]

[The following special conditions apply to this contract :]

[The special conditions applying to this contract are set out in its Annex III.]

[In addition to the special conditions set out in Annex III, the following special conditions shall apply to this contract:]

Article 7 - Amendments

This contract, including the Annexes thereto, may be amended only by written agreement between the authorised representatives of the *contracting parties*. No verbal agreement may be binding on the *contracting parties* for this purpose.

Any request for amendment must be received by the Commission at least two months before the expiry of the *duration of the project*.

Article 8 - Final provisions

1. The following Annexes are an integral part of this contract:

Annex I - Description of work

Annex II - General conditions

[Annex III - Special conditions]

2. In the event of any conflict between Annex I and any other provision of this contract, the latter shall take precedence.

[3. The special conditions set out in [Article 6 of][Annex III to][Article 6 of and Annex III to] this contract shall take precedence over any other provisions].

Article 9 - Signature and language of the contract

[*number (minimum two)*] copies of the contract in [*insert language*] shall be signed by the *contracting parties* and only that language version shall be authentic.

Done at Brussels/Luxembourg,

On behalf of [*name and acronym of the coordinator/principal contractor*]:

Name: (written out in full)

Title:

Signature:

(stamp of the organisation)

On behalf of the Commission:

Name: (written out in full)

Title:

Signature:

Date:

**Table – Advance
Indicative breakdown of estimated eligible costs**

<i>Participants</i>	<i>Principal contractor No</i>	Rate of financial participation	Estimated eligible costs in euro	Maximum Community contribution in euro	Advance	Distribution of estimated eligible costs by category					
						Personnel	Travel and subsistence	Computing	Sub-contracting	Other specific costs	Overheads
<i>Coordinator (name)</i> <i>Member(s)</i> ¹											
Sub-total ²											
<i>Principal contractor (name)</i> <i>Member(s)</i>											
Sub-total											
<i>Principal contractor (name)</i> <i>Member(s)</i>											
Sub-total											
TOTAL											

¹ All the *members* linked to the *coordinator/principal contractor*.

² Total amount for the *contractor/principal contractor* and their *members*.

Table - Indicative breakdown of estimated eligible costs

<i>Member</i>	Percentage of Community financial contribution	Estimated eligible costs in euros	Maximum Community contribution in euros	Distribution of estimated eligible costs by category					
				Personnel	Travel and subsistence	Computing	Subcontracting	Other specific costs	Overheads
(name)									
TOTAL									

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- PART A: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *PROJECT*
- Article 1 - Definitions
- Article 2 - Management of the *project* and role of the *coordinator*
- Article 3 - The Community's financial contribution
- Article 4 - Submission of *project deliverables* and of summary statements of amounts transferred by the *coordinator*
- Article 5 - *Membership agreements*
- Article 6 - *Subcontracts*
- Article 7 - Liability
- Article 8 - Termination of the contract and of the participation of a *principal contractor* or of a *member*
- PART B: RULES RELATING TO INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY, PUBLICITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY
- Article 9 - Ownership of *knowledge*
- Article 10 - Protection of *knowledge*
- Article 11 - Making available *knowledge* not resulting from the *project* and *pre-existing know-how*
- Article 12 - *Dissemination of knowledge*
- Article 13 - Publicity and communications concerning the *project* and *knowledge* resulting from the *project*
- Article 14 - Confidentiality
- Article 15 - Communication of data for evaluation and standardisation purposes
- Article 16 - Incompatible or restrictive commitments
- PART C: REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS
- Article 17 - Eligible costs - general principles
- Article 18 - Direct costs
- Article 19 - Indirect costs
- Article 20 - Justification of costs

PART D: AUDITING

Article 21 Financial audit

Article 22 Technical verification of the *project*

PART E-1: MODEL COST STATEMENT

PART E-2/A: MODEL INTEGRATED COST STATEMENT TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE *COORDINATOR*

PART E-2/B: MODEL INTEGRATED COST STATEMENT TO BE SUBMITTED BY EACH *PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR*

PART E-3: MODEL SUMMARY STATEMENT OF AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED BY THE *COORDINATOR*

PART F: MODEL MEMBERSHIP CONTRACTS

PART A: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *PROJECT*

Article 1 - Definitions

1. “*Decision*” means [Council Decision 1999/65/EC of 22 December 1998 concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the dissemination of research results for the implementation of the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Community (1998 to 2002)]² [Council Decision 1999/66/Euratom of 22 December 1998 concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in the implementation of the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (1998-2002)]³.
2. “*Regulation*” means [Commission Regulation (EC) No 996/99 of 11 May 1999 on the implementation of Council Decision 1999/65/EC concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the dissemination of research results for the implementation of the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Community (1998-2002)]⁴ [Commission Regulation (Euratom) No 1605/1999 of 22 July 1999 on the implementation of Council Decision 1999/66/Euratom concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in the implementation of the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (1998-2002)]⁵.
3. “Contracting parties” means the Community and the principal contractor(s).
4. “*Principal contractor*” means a legal entity, an international organisation, or the Joint Research Centre (JRC), which has concluded this contract with the Community.
5. “*Coordinator*” means the *principal contractor* carrying out the tasks provided for in Article 2(1) of this Annex.
6. “*Member*” means a legal entity, an international organisation, or the JRC, other than a *principal contractor*, which has concluded a membership agreement signed with a *principal contractor* in agreement with the Community and in accordance with this contract and having, by virtue of that membership agreement, the same rights and obligations as the *principal contractor* unless the former stipulates otherwise.
7. “Participants” means the principal contractors and the members.
8. “*Membership agreement*” means the agreement concluded between the *participants* for the specific needs of the project in accordance with the conditions of this contract.

² OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 46.

³ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 56.

⁴ OJ L 122, 12.5.1999, p. 9.

⁵ OJ L190,23.7.1999, p.3.

9. "*Subcontract*" means an agreement to provide services, supplies or goods concluded between a *participant* and one or more *subcontractors* for the specific needs of the *project*.
10. "*Subcontractor*" means a legal entity, an international organisation or the JRC, which has concluded a *subcontract*.
11. "*Project*" means all the work referred to in Annex I to this contract.
12. "*Project commencement date*" means the date referred to in Article 2(1) of this contract.
13. "*Duration of the project*" means the period of performance of the *project* as referred to in Article 2(1) of this contract.
14. "*Contract completion date*" means the date referred to in Article 2(2), second subparagraph, of this contract.
15. "*Project deliverables*" means the reports and the cost statements referred to in Article 4 of this contract and Article 4 of this Annex as well as any element designated as such in Annex I to this contract.
16. "*Associated State*" means a State party to an international agreement concluded with the Community, in particular on the basis of [Article 170 of the Treaty establishing the European Community]. [Article 101 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community] under which [that State makes a financial contribution to the framework programme] [the State in question makes a financial contribution to the framework programme. That agreement relates to cooperation on research and development].
17. "*Third country*" means a country other than a Member State or an *Associated State*.
18. "*Change of control*" means any change in the control exercised over a *principal contractor*, within the meaning of Article 5(1), third subparagraph, of the *Regulation*. Such control may result, in particular, from:
 - direct or indirect holding of a majority of the share capital of the *principal contractor* or a majority of the voting rights of the latter's shareholders or associates,or
 - direct or indirect holding, in fact or in law, of decision-making powers within the *principal contractor*.
19. "*Force majeure*" means any unforeseeable and insuperable event affecting the carrying out of the *project* by one or more *participants*.

20. The "*interests of the Community*" are to be assessed in particular with regard to:
- the objective of strengthening the international competitiveness of Community industry,
 - the objective of providing appropriate incentives for maintaining and creating jobs in the Community,
 - the objective of promoting sustainable development and improving the quality of life in the Community,
 - the needs of other Community policies in support of which indirect RTD[RTDT] actions are carried out,
 - the existence of scientific and technical cooperation agreements between the Community and third countries or international organisations.
21. "*Knowledge*" means the results, including information, arising from any *project* covered by [Decision No 182/1999/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 22 December 1998 relating to the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (1998 to 2002)]⁶ [Council Decision 1999/64/Euratom of 22 December 1998 concerning the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for research and training activities (1998 to 2002)]⁷ as well as copyright or rights attaching to the results following applications for or the issue or registration of patents, designs and models, plant varieties, additional certificates or other similar forms of protection.
22. "*Pre-existing know-how*" means information, other than *knowledge*, held by the *participants* prior to the conclusion of the contract or the *membership agreement* or acquired in parallel with them and necessary for carrying out the *project*, as well as copyright or rights attaching to such information following applications for or the issue or registration of patents, designs and models, plant varieties, additional certificates or other similar forms of protection.
23. "*Complementary contract*" means a contract concluded with the Community in respect of work technically related to the *project*, including for *use* purposes, and recognised in writing by the contractors to each contract as being complementary.
24. "*Complementary contractor*" means a legal entity or an international organisation or the JRC, which has concluded a *complementary contract*.
25. "*Dissemination*" means the disclosure of *knowledge* by any appropriate means other than the publication resulting from the formalities for protecting *knowledge* for the purposes of promoting scientific and technical progress.

⁶ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 1.

⁷ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 34.

26. "*Legitimate interest*" means any interest, in particular of a commercial nature, of a *participant* which may be invoked in the cases provided for in this Annex provided that the participant demonstrates that the damage to that interest is likely, given the circumstances, to cause a specific prejudice that is disproportionate, considering the objectives of the provision in respect of which it is invoked.
27. "*Favourable conditions*" means conditions more favourable than market conditions owing to discounts of any kind.
28. "*Non-commercial user rights*" means user rights relating to *knowledge* or *pre-existing knowhow* transferred under the conditions provided for in this Annex for non-commercial purposes and solely carrying out the *project*.
29. "*Eligible costs*" means the costs referred to in Articles 14 and 15 of this Annex, in compliance with the conditions set out in Article 13(1) to (4) thereof.

Article 2 - Management of the *project* and role of the *coordinator*

1. Without prejudice to paragraph 2 of this Article, the *coordinator* shall be in charge of the scientific, financial and administrative coordination of the *project*. In this respect,
 - (a) he shall be the intermediary between the *principal contractors* and the Commission. In particular, he shall be responsible for transmitting to the Commission all documents and correspondence relating to the *project*;
 - (b) he shall inform the Commission of the actual date of commencement of the work and of the person designated by each *principal contractor* in accordance with paragraph 2(b) of this Article;
 - (c) he shall obtain and transmit to the Commission a copy of the *membership agreements* duly signed by the *participants* and shall verify that the *principal contractors* guarantee that those *membership agreements* are in conformity with this contract;
 - (d) he shall submit to the Commission:
 - the cost statements provided for in Article 4 of this contract and Article 4 of this Annex,
 - the periodic, final and supplementary reports provided for in Article 4 of this contract and Article 4 of this Annex after incorporating the content of the data provided by all the *principal contractors* and verifying their consistency with the corresponding cost statements;
 - (e) in his capacity as representative of the *principal contractors* he shall receive, subject to the special conditions set out in Article 6 of this contract, all the payments made by the Commission to the account referred to in Article 3(3), first subparagraph, of this contract;

- (f) not being the beneficiary of payments intended for other *principal contractors* pursuant to this contract, he shall transfer to them within 30 days of receipt of the funds paid by the Commission the amount owing to them up to the maximum provided under Article 3(1)(b), third subparagraph, of this contract.

He shall inform the Commission of the distribution of the funds and of the date of transfer by means of the form in part E-3;

- (g) he shall inform the other *contracting parties* of any event liable to substantially affect the *project* of which he is aware, including any change in a person mentioned in paragraph 2(b) of this Article, any *change of control* with regard to a *principal contractor* and any circumstance affecting the conditions of participation referred to in Articles 3 to 12 of the *Decision*,
- (h) he shall inform the Commission of transfers in the budget set out in the table which follows the signatures to this contract, between *participants* and between categories, carried out in compliance with Article 17(4) of this Annex upon notification by those concerned.

Without prejudice to Article 8(3)(b) of this Annex, should the *coordinator* fail to meet his obligations, the Commission may, in agreement with the other *principal contractors*, designate another *coordinator* from among the *principal contractors*.

2. The *principal contractors* and *members*:

- (a) the *principal contractors* are the intermediaries between the *members* and the *coordinator* and, where appropriate, the Commission,
- (b) the *participants* shall agree upon appropriate arrangements for the proper performance of the work incumbent upon them pursuant to Annex I to this contract. To this end, they shall designate one or more persons from among those referred to in Article 18(1) of this Annex who shall direct their work and ensure that the tasks assigned are correctly performed,
- (c) the *principal contractors* shall inform the *coordinator* of any event liable to substantially affect the *project*, including any change of a person mentioned at point (b) of this paragraph, any *change of control* with regard to them or their *members* and any circumstance affecting the conditions of participation referred to in Articles 3 to 12 of the *Decision*,
- (d) the *principal contractors* shall forward to the *coordinator* the data needed to draw up the reports provided for in Article 4 of this contract and of this Annex and forward the corresponding cost statements, if any.
- (e) the *principal contractors* shall inform the *coordinator* of transfers in the budget as soon as they have carried out such transfers in compliance with the conditions set out in Article 17(4) of this Annex,
- (f) the *principal contractors* and *members* shall take part in meetings concerning the supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the *project* which are relevant to them,

- (g) the *principal contractors* shall, including for their *members*, provide all detailed information requested by the Commission for the purposes of the proper administration of this contract.
 - (h) not being the beneficiaries of the payments intended for the *members* pursuant to this contract, the *principal contractors* shall transfer to them the amounts owing to them in accordance with the conditions of the *membership agreements* concluded in accordance with Article 5 of this Annex.
3. The Commission may be assisted by independent experts in the framework of the meetings referred to under paragraph 2(f) of this Article.

It shall take appropriate steps to ensure that such experts treat confidentially the data that are communicated to them. Prior to such meetings, it shall communicate to the *coordinator* the identity of the experts who are intended to assist it. It shall take account of any objection on the part of *participants* based on *legitimate interests*.

Article 3 - The Community's financial contribution

1. The Community's financial contribution shall be paid to the coordinator in accordance with the following principles:
- (a) An initial advance shall be paid within a maximum period of 60 days running from the date of the last signature of the *contracting parties*. The period of 60 days may be suspended until the date of receipt by the Commission of all the *membership agreements* duly signed by the *participants*. The *coordinator* shall allocate the advance in accordance with the table of the indicative breakdown of estimated eligible costs following the signatures to this contract.
- If the *project* has not effectively commenced within three months of the payment of the initial advance, the Commission may:
- (i) either terminate the contract pursuant to Article 8(3)(a) of this Annex, or
 - (ii) decide to add interest to the initial advance from the date of payment until the effective date of commencement of the work at the rate applied by the European Central Bank for its main refinancing operations applicable on the first day of the month during which the three-month time-limit has expired. Such interest shall be deducted from the subsequent payment made by the Commission.
- (b) Periodic payments shall be made within a maximum period of 60 days from the date on which the Commission approves or is deemed, in accordance with Article 4(3), fourth subparagraph, of this Annex, to have approved the periodic reports and the corresponding cost statements, or other *project deliverables*.

The amounts of the periodic payments shall be calculated on the basis of the eligible costs approved by the Commission. When each periodic payment is made, an amount corresponding to part of the initial advance shall be retained, calculated on the basis of the relationship between the eligible costs approved by the Commission and the forecasts of expenses for the period in question.

- (c) The final payment of the Community's financial contribution shall be made within a maximum period of 60 days from the date on which the Commission approves or is deemed, in accordance with Article 4(3), fourth subparagraph, of this Annex, to have approved the last *project deliverable*.

The final payment shall correspond to the difference between the total amount of *eligible costs* approved by the Commission and the amount of the initial advance and any periodic payments. However, the Community's total financial contribution may not exceed the maximum amount provided for in Article 3(2) of this contract.

The payments referred to at points (a) to (c) of the first subparagraph of this paragraph shall be regarded as having been effected on the date on which the Commission's account is debited.

The Commission may suspend the period of 60 days referred to under (b) and (c) of the first subparagraph of this paragraph at any time by notifying the *principal contractors* concerned that it considers that additional checks should be carried out. The period shall continue to run once the Commission has completed the additional checks.

On expiry of the period provided for and without prejudice to the third subparagraph of this paragraph, the *principal contractors* concerned, or the *coordinator* on behalf of all *principal contractors*, may claim, at the latest within two months of receiving the late payment, interest at the rate applied by the European Central Bank for its main refinancing operations applicable on the first day of the month during which the time-limit has expired, plus one and a half percentage points. The interest shall cover the period running from the day after the time-limit for payment until the date of actual payment.

2. Where the Commission suspects fraud or serious financial irregularity on the part of a *participant*, it may suspend payments or order the *coordinator* not to make any payment to the *principal contractor* concerned or involved with regard to one of his *members*. The *participant* and *members* concerned shall remain bound by their contractual obligations pursuant to this contract or the *membership agreement*.
3. Subject to Article 21 of this Annex, all payments shall be treated as advances until the last *project deliverable* is approved.
4. Where the total financial contribution due from the Community, taking into account any adjustments, including as a result of a financial audit as referred to in Article 21 of this Annex, is less than the total amount of the payments referred to in paragraph 1, first subparagraph, of this Article, the *principal contractors* and *members* concerned shall reimburse the difference in euro, within the time-limit set by the Commission in its request sent by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt.

In the event of non-reimbursement by the *participant* within the time-limit set by the Commission, the latter shall add interest to the sums due at the rate applied by the European Central Bank for its main refinancing operations on the first day of the month during which the time-limit set by the Commission has expired, plus one and a half percentage points, unless interest is due pursuant to another provision of this contract. The interest shall cover the period running from the day after the expiry of the time-limit until the date of receipt of the funds to be reimbursed.

Bank charges resulting from any reimbursement of sums due to the Community shall be borne exclusively by the *participant* concerned.

A recovery order regarding payments made by the Commission drawn up by the latter and transmitted to the *principal contractor* in accordance with Article 21(4) of this Annex shall be enforceable within the meaning of Article 256 of the Treaty establishing the European Community.

The Commission may decide to set off sums to be reimbursed to the Community against sums of any kind due to the *principal contractor* or *member* concerned.

5. After the *contract completion date*, the termination of the contract or of the participation of a *participant* or *member*, the Commission may or shall, as appropriate, request from the *principal contractor* concerned, or from the *principal contractor* involved with regard to one of his *members*, repayment of the entire Community contribution paid to it, where fraud or serious financial irregularities are discovered in the course of an audit. Interest at the rate applied by the European Central Bank for its main refinancing operations on the first day of the month during which the *participant* concerned received the funds plus two percentage points shall be added to the amount to be repaid. The interest shall cover the period between the receipt of the funds and their repayment.

Article 4 - Submission of *project deliverables* and of summary statements of amounts transferred by the *coordinator*

1. As regards reports:

- (a) The *coordinator* shall submit the following reports for approval by the Commission after incorporating the content of the data provided by all the *principal contractors* and verifying their consistency with the corresponding cost statements:
 - (i) periodic reports containing information about the progress of work, resources employed, departures from the work schedule, and results,
 - (ii) supplementary reports containing information required by Annex I to this contract,
 - (iii) a final report covering all the work, objectives, results and conclusions, including a summary of all the latter,
 - (iv) where the reports referred to in points (i), (ii) and (iii) cannot be published in full, they shall, in addition, be presented in a suitable form for publication by the *contracting parties*.
- (b) The layout of the reports shall conform to the rules communicated by the Commission. The reports for publication should be of a suitable quality to enable direct reproduction.

2. As regards the cost statements:

- (a) The cost statements shall be expressed in euro and in the currency used in the accounting of the *participant*. The euro conversion and exchange rates for cost statements and related payments shall be the rates published by the Commission for the implementation of the budget and in force on the first working day of the month following the period covered by the cost statement concerned. No account shall be taken of exchange rate gains or losses between the time of establishment of the cost statement and the receipt of the corresponding payment.
- (b) The *coordinator* and the *principal contractors* shall send two cost statements to the Commission through the *coordinator*: a statement of their own *eligible costs* in the format specified in part E-1 and an integrated cost statement in euro covering all the costs incurred by all their *members* in the format specified in part E-2/B.

In addition, the *coordinator* shall submit the corresponding integrated cost statements in euro in the format specified in part E-2/A.

- (c) Each *member* shall submit a cost statement to the *principal contractor* concerned through the *coordinator* in the format specified in part E-1.

Each *principal contractor* shall keep a copy of its *members'* cost statements for the purposes of auditing in accordance with Article 17 of this Annex.

Participants that do not benefit from a financial contribution from the Community are required to submit only a description of the efforts deployed and the resources used in order to carry out the *project*.

3. Each periodic report and the corresponding cost statements, including the integrated cost statements, as well as, where appropriate, each supplementary report shall be submitted to the Commission within two months of the end of the period covered by the report.

The final report(s) and the cost statements for the final period, including the integrated cost statement, shall be submitted to the Commission within two months of the end of the *duration of the project*.

The other *project deliverables* shall be submitted by the deadlines specified in Annex I to this contract.

In the absence of observations by the Commission, the *project deliverables* shall be deemed to be approved within two months of their receipt.

4. The Commission reserves the right to withhold part or, exceptionally, all of the payment of the Community's financial contribution until the period covered by the next cost statement in case of failure to submit, within the time-limit set out in paragraph 3 of this Article or in Annex I as relevant, a cost statement or a periodic report or other *project deliverables*.

The Commission may decide not to make the payment corresponding to the costs incurred during the final period in case of failure to submit, within the time-limit set out in paragraph 3 of this Article:

- the cost statements for the final period,
- the final report(s) or other *project deliverable*,

subject to one month's written notice of non-receipt of that document.

5. The *coordinator* shall attach to the cost statements the summary statements referred to in Article 2(1), point (f), second sentence, of this Annex. However, where they concern the transfer of the final payment of the Community's financial contribution, the *coordinator* shall submit them immediately following such transfer.

Article 5 - Membership agreements

1. The *principal contractors* shall conclude a *membership agreement* with each of their *members*. No *member* may enjoy the benefits of this contract until his *membership agreement* has entered into force.

(a) When concluding *membership agreements*, the *principal contractor* shall ensure that:

(i) the *membership agreements* are in conformity with this contract;

(ii) that his *members*:

- perform the tasks assigned to them in accordance with Annex I to this contract,
- acquire identical rights to those of the *principal contractors* pursuant to this contract,
- receive their share of the Community's financial contribution in accordance with the conditions of the *membership agreements* concluded in accordance with this article after receipt of the funds paid by the Commission.

(b) The *membership agreement* shall be drawn up on the basis of the model in part F of this Annex.

A copy of the *membership agreements* duly signed by the authorised representatives of the *principal contractors* and of all their *members* shall immediately be sent to the *coordinator*.

(c) The *principal contractors* must submit, with each periodic report and with the final report, a list of their *members*, specifying the date of entry into force or the date of termination of each *membership agreement*.

(d) The *principal contractor* shall include in the *membership agreement* appropriate provisions to enable the Commission or its authorised representatives as well as, where appropriate, the Court of Auditors, to carry out the financial audits and technical verifications in accordance with Articles 21 and 22 of this Annex.

Article 6 - Subcontracts

1. *Participants* may conclude *subcontracts* where this proves necessary for the performance of their work. No *subcontract* may be concluded for the performance of coordination tasks pursuant to this contract.

Unless Annex I to this contract contains sufficient detailed data, the Commission's prior written approval is required:

(a) where the cumulative amount of the *subcontracts* of a *principal contractor* exceeds:

- 20% of his estimated eligible costs,
- EUR 100 000,

whichever amount is the lower;

(b) where the *subcontractor* is established in a *third country*, unless the *principal contractor* or *member* concerned is established there.

In the absence of observations within one month of receipt of the request made by the *coordinator*, the Commission's approval shall be deemed to be granted.

2. The *participant* shall ensure that *subcontracts* include an obligation for the *subcontractors*:
 - to submit invoices making reference to the *project* and giving details of the service or supply concerned,
 - to submit to the audits provided for in Articles 21 and 22 of this Annex.

Article 7 - Liability

1. The liability of the *contracting parties* amongst themselves with regard to any losses, damages or injuries suffered in the context of the performance of this contract shall be governed by the law indicated in Article 5(1) of the contract.
2. The *principal contractors* shall take all necessary and reasonable measures to carry out the work incumbent on a defaulting *principal contractor*. However, they shall not be required to reimburse amounts owed by a *principal contractor* unless they have contributed to the latter's defaulting.

The measures to be taken in the event of *force majeure* shall be agreed between the *contracting parties*. The *contracting parties* expressly agree that any defect in respect of a product or service used in the performance of this contract and affecting such performance, including, for example, anomalies in the functioning or performance of such product or service resulting from or linked to the millennium date change (year 2000 problem), does not constitute *force majeure*.

3. The Community cannot be held liable for acts or omissions of the *participants* in the performance of this contract. It shall not be liable for any defects in respect of any products or services created on the basis of *knowledge* resulting from the *project*, including, for example, anomalies in the functioning or performance thereof resulting from or linked to the millennium date change (year 2000 problem).

The *participants* shall fully guarantee the Community, and shall undertake to indemnify it in the event of any action, complaint or proceeding brought by a third party against it as a result of damage caused either by an act or omission of the *participants* in the performance of this contract or on account of any products or services created on the basis of *knowledge* resulting from the *project* only to the extent that the *participants* have contributed to or are responsible for the loss or damage concerned.

4. In the event of any action brought by a third party against the Community in connection with the performance of this contract, *principal contractors* which may bear responsibility shall be required to assist the Community.
5. In the event of any action brought by a third party against a *principal contractor* in connection with the performance of this contract, the Commission may, without prejudice to paragraph 1 of this Article, assist the latter upon written request. The costs incurred by the Commission in this connection shall be borne by the *principal contractor* concerned.

Article 8 - Termination of the contract or othe participation of a *principal contractor* or *member*

1. The Commission may terminate the contract or the participation of a *principal contractor* for major technical or economic reasons substantially affecting the *project* (including where the resumption of the performance of the contract following its suspension on account of *force majeure* proves impossible),

The Commission shall determine, in a registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt, the notice period, which shall not exceed one month from the date of receipt of such letter.

2. The Commission shall not object
 - (a) to the termination of the contract, at the written request of the *coordinator* in agreement with all the other *principal contractors*, on the grounds mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article,
 - (b) to the withdrawal of a *principal contractor* from the *project* where all the other *principal contractors* have given their prior agreement in writing, unless this withdrawal substantially affects the carrying out of the *project*.

The termination of the contract or the withdrawal of the *principal contractor* shall be effective:

- on the date of the letter of acceptance by the Commission notified by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt,
 - at the latest one month following receipt of notification by the interested part(y)(ies) in the absence of written observations by the Commission within that time-limit.
3. The Commission may immediately terminate this contract or the participation of a *principal contractor* or request the *principal contractor* involved to terminate the participation of one of his *members* from the date of receipt of the registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt sent by the Commission or, as appropriate, by the *principal contractor* concerned in accordance with paragraph 6, third subparagraph, of this Article:

- (a) where the *project* has not effectively commenced within three months of the payment of the initial advance and the new date proposed is considered unacceptable by the Commission,
 - (b) where the *principal contractor* or the *member* directly concerned has not fully performed his contractual obligations despite a written request from the Commission, or the *coordinator* in agreement with the other *principal contractors*, or, in the case of a defaulting *member*, the *principal contractor* involved, to remedy a failure to comply with such obligations within a period not exceeding one month,
 - (c) where a *change of control* over a *principal contractor* is likely substantially to affect the *project* or the *interests of the Community*,
 - (d) in the event of bankruptcy, of winding up, of cessation of trading, of winding up by court order or composition, suspension of activities of a *participant* or any similar proceeding provided for by national laws or regulations and leading to a similar result,
 - (e) in the event of a serious financial irregularity.
4. The Commission shall immediately terminate this contract or the participation of a *principal contractor* or shall request a *principal contractor* concerned to terminate the participation of a *member* from the date of receipt of the registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt sent by the Commission or, as appropriate, by the *principal contractor* concerned in accordance with paragraph 6, third subparagraph, of this Article:
- (a) where the conditions for participation in the *project* mentioned in Articles 3 to 12 of the *Decision* are no longer satisfied, unless it considers that the *project* is essential to the implementation of the specific programme,
 - (b) where a *participant* has made false declarations for which he may be held responsible or has deliberately withheld information in order to obtain the Community's financial contribution or any other advantage provided for in the contract.
5. Any letter from the Commission serving to terminate the participation of a *principal contractor* (including in the event of the withdrawal of a *principal contractor*) or of a *member* or to terminate the contract shall be addressed in the first case to the *principal contractor* concerned or involved with regard to one of his *members* and in the second case to the *coordinator* in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraphs 1 to 4 of this Article. A copy of the letter shall be sent in the first case to the *coordinator* and in the second case to the other *principal contractors*.
6. *Principal contractors* shall take appropriate action to cancel or reduce their commitments, upon receipt of the letter from the Commission notifying them of the termination of the contract or of their participation or upon the dispatch of their request for termination or withdrawal, as the case may be.

The same obligation shall apply to *members* from the date of receipt of the letter from the *principal contractor* involved in accordance with the third subparagraph of this paragraph.

In the case of a request from the Commission to a *principal contractor* to terminate the participation of a *member*, the *principal contractor* concerned shall have a period of 15 days to send to the *member* the Commission's request to terminate the participation of that *member*.

The Commission will not reimburse a *member's* costs if they are due to the fact that the *principal contractor* concerned omitted to send the termination notice referred to in paragraph 3, points (b), (c), (d) and (e) or paragraph 4 points (e) and (b), of this Article within the time-limit specified in the third subparagraph of this paragraph.

In the event of termination of the contract or of the participation of a *principal contractor* pursuant to paragraph 1 or paragraph 2, first subparagraph, point (a), of this Article, the Community's financial contribution shall cover eligible costs relating to *project deliverables* approved by the Commission and also eligible costs subsequently incurred in good faith before the date mentioned in the first subparagraph of this paragraph.

In the event of termination of the contract or of the participation of a *principal contractor* or *member*:

- (a) pursuant to paragraph 2, first subparagraph, point (b), or paragraph 3(b) or (d) of this Article, the Commission may require repayment of all or part of the Community's financial contribution, taking into account the nature and results of the work carried out and its usefulness to the Community in the context of the specific programme concerned,
 - (b) pursuant to paragraph 3(c) or paragraph 4(a) of this Article, the Commission shall only reimburse the eligible costs relating to accepted *project deliverables* and incurred before the event which caused the termination of the contract or of the participation of a *principal contractor* or *member*, and also eligible costs subsequently incurred in good faith before the date mentioned in the first subparagraph of this paragraph in the case of a *principal contractor* or in the third subparagraph of this paragraph in the case of a *member*,
 - (c) pursuant to paragraph 3(a) or (e) or paragraph 4(b) of this Article, the Commission may require repayment of all or part of the Community's financial contribution. Interest at the rate applied by the European Central Bank for its main refinancing operations on the first day of the month during which the *participant* concerned received the funds plus two percentage points shall be added to the amount to be repaid. The interest shall cover the period between the receipt of the funds and their repayment.
7. The termination of the participation of a *participant* shall not prejudice the non-commercial user rights for the carrying out of the *project* which he granted before that date pursuant to Article 11 of this Annex. He must grant such rights under the conditions set out in that Article to any *participant* taking over all or part of the work incumbent on him.
 8. The *participants* shall submit the *project deliverables* relating to the work performed until the date of termination of the contract or when their participation ends.

**PART B: RULES RELATING TO INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY,
PUBLICITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

Article 9 - Ownership of knowledge

1. *Knowledge* shall be the property of the *principal contractors* and *members* carrying out the work generating that *knowledge*.
2. Where several *participants* have carried out the work generating the *knowledge*, they shall agree among themselves on the allocation and the terms of exercising the ownership of the *knowledge* in accordance with this contract.
3. If persons employed by a *participant* may claim rights to *knowledge*, the latter shall take steps or reach appropriate agreements to ensure that these rights are exercised in a manner compatible with its obligations under this contract.
4. Where a *participant* transfers ownership of *knowledge*, he shall take steps or conclude agreements to pass on his obligations under this contract to the assignee, in order to take account, inter alia, of the *interests of the Community* and in compliance with international agreements concluded by the Community.

The *participant* concerned shall inform the other *participants* in advance of the conditions of the assignment.

Article 10 - Protection of *knowledge*

Participants who own *knowledge* shall provide adequate and effective protection for such *knowledge*.

Article 11 - Making available *knowledge* not resulting from the *project* and *pre-existing know-how*

1. *Non-commercial user rights* shall be granted by all *participants*, on request in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 4 of this Article, provided that the *participant* concerned is free to grant such rights.
2. The granting of *non-commercial user rights* may be made conditional on the conclusion of specific agreements aimed at ensuring that they are used only for the intended purpose and appropriate confidentiality agreements.
3. *Participants* shall enjoy, on a royalty-free basis, *non-commercial user rights* to the *knowledge* not resulting from the *project* and to *pre-existing know-how*, generated during the performance of the research work associated with the content of the *project* and needed to carry out their work in the framework of the *project*.
4. *Participants* shall enjoy, on *favourable conditions*, *non-commercial user rights* to *knowledge* not resulting from the *project* and to *pre-existing know-how*, generated during the performance of the research work not associated with the content of the *project* and needed to carry out their work in the framework of the *project*.
5. *Non-commercial user rights* shall be granted until the end of the *duration of the project*.

Article 12 - Dissemination of knowledge

1. *Participants* shall be required to disseminate, or cause to be disseminated, *knowledge* which they own and which lends itself to *dissemination* .
2. The *participants* shall agree with the Commission on the terms of the *dissemination* of the *knowledge* within a reasonable time-limit, in accordance with the need to safeguard intellectual and industrial property rights, confidentiality, and their *legitimate interests*.

Article 13 - Publicity and communications concerning the *project* and *knowledge* resulting from the *project*

1. Taking into account their *legitimate interests*, *participants* shall, throughout the *duration of the project*, take appropriate measures to ensure suitable publicity for the *project* in order to highlight the support provided by the Community. The Commission may agree on such measures with the *contractors*.

Participants shall give the Commission general data in advance concerning the proposed publicity.

2. The Commission may disseminate, by any appropriate means and for as long as necessary, general data relating in particular to the objectives, the estimated total cost, the duration and the state of progress of the *project*, to the Community's financial contribution and to the *knowledge* resulting therefrom. The legal designation of *participants* and the names of the laboratories carrying out the work shall also be published unless they object to this in advance, in good time, on the grounds of overriding *legitimate interests*.

Where the measures referred to in the first subparagraph presuppose access by the Commission or its duly authorised representatives to the premises of *participants*, the latter may refuse such access on the grounds of *legitimate interests*.

On request and where he is free to do so, each *participant* shall grant the Commission an irrevocable, non-exclusive right, on a royalty-free basis, to translate, reproduce and distribute articles for scientific and technical journals, conference papers and other documents drawn up in the framework of the *project* and published by the *participant*.

3. Any communication or publication, whatever the form or medium (including the Internet), concerning the state of progress of the *project* or concerning the *knowledge*:
 - shall mention the relevant specific programme and the support provided by the Community,and
 - shall, where it is made by the *participant*, state that the author is solely responsible for it and that it does not represent the opinion of the Community, and that the Community is not responsible for any use that might be made of data appearing therein.

Where use of the European emblem is envisaged, prior approval shall be required from the Commission. Standards, in particular with regard to graphics, in force within the Commission must be complied with.

Article 14 - Confidentiality

1. Without prejudice to Article 13 of this Annex and any other obligation contained in this contract, the *contracting parties* and *members* shall be required to keep confidential any data, *knowledge*, document and *pre-existing know-how* communicated to them on a confidential basis or the disclosure of which may be prejudicial to one of them.

This obligation shall no longer apply:

- where the content of these data, *knowledge*, documents and *pre-existing know-how* becomes publicly available through work or actions lawfully performed outside this contract and not based on activities under it,
 - where these data, *knowledge*, documents and *pre-existing know-how* have been communicated without any confidentiality restrictions or where the disclosing party subsequently waives their confidentiality.
2. Where this contract provides for the communication of any data, *knowledge*, *pre-existing know-how* or document referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the *contracting parties* and *members* shall first satisfy themselves that the recipient will keep it confidential and use it only for the purpose for which it is communicated.
 3. *Participants* shall take appropriate steps to ensure that the experts referred to in Article 18(3)(c) of this Annex keep confidential any information, *knowledge*, or any other element communicated to them on a confidential basis.

Article 15 - Communication of data for evaluation purposes

1. Without prejudice to Article 14 of this Annex, *participants* shall be required to provide, at the request of the Commission or its authorised representatives, data necessary for:
 - the continuous review of the specific programme concerned and the fifth framework programme,and
 - the evaluation of Community activities over the five years preceding that evaluation.

Such a request may be made throughout the duration of the contract and up to five years after the *contract completion date*.

The data collected shall be used exclusively in a statistical form.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions regarding protection and confidentiality, set out respectively in Articles 10 and 14 of this Annex, *participants* must inform the Commission and the standardisation bodies without delay of *knowledge* resulting from the *project* which may contribute to the preparation of European or, where appropriate, international standards, or to an industrial consensus on technical issues. To this end, they shall communicate appropriate data on such *knowledge* to the Commission and to the standardisation bodies during the entire duration of the contract and the two years following the *contract completion date*.

The provisions of this contract shall be without prejudice to the rules applicable, within the standardisation bodies, to data transmitted to them.

Article 16 - Incompatible or restrictive commitments

1. *Participants* shall take all necessary steps to avoid commitments that are incompatible with the obligations provided for in Articles 10 to 15 of this Annex.
2. Without prejudice to paragraph 1 of this Article, *participants* shall be informed, as soon as possible, by the *participant* required to grant *non-commercial user rights*, as referred to in Article 11 of this Annex, as appropriate, of any limitations on the granting of *rights to knowledge* resulting from the *project* or any restriction which might substantially affect the granting of *non-commercial user rights*.

PART C: REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

Article 17 - Eligible costs - general principles

1. *Eligible costs* are the costs defined in Articles 18 and 19 of this Annex. They shall fulfil the following conditions:
 - be necessary for the *project*,
 - be incurred during the *duration of the project*,
 - be determined in accordance with the accounting principle based on historic costs and the usual internal rules of the *principal contractor*, provided that they are regarded as acceptable by the Commission,
 - be recorded in the accounts no later than the *contract completion date* or in the tax documents,
 - exclude any profit margin.

and

- concern in principle only costs essential for administration, management and coordination of the *project*. They shall not include costs relating to the research work itself.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the first subparagraph, the costs for drawing up the final report shall be eligible when incurred by the *coordinator* within a maximum period of two months as of the end of the *duration of the project*,

A member may not commit himself to costs before the date of entry into force of his *membership agreement*.

2. Non-eligible costs are in particular the following:
 - costs related to capital employed,
 - provisions for possible future losses or charges
 - interest owed,

- provisions for doubtful debts,
 - resources made available to a *participant* free of charge,
 - value of contributions in kind,
 - unnecessary or ill-considered expenses,
 - marketing, sales and distribution costs for products and services,
 - indirect taxes and duties, including VAT,
 - entertainment or hospitality expenses, except such expenses accepted by the Commission as being absolutely necessary for carrying out the contract,
 - any cost incurred or reimbursed, in particular in respect of another Community, international or national project.
3. A cost shall only be charged to one of the eligible cost categories set out in Articles 18 and 19 of this Annex.
4. *Principal contractors* shall be authorised to transfer between themselves the budget provided for in the table of the indicative breakdown of estimated eligible costs, provided that:
- they inform the Commission of such transfer upon signing an agreement confirming that the scope of the *project* and the conditions of participation referred to in Articles 3 to 12 of the *Decision* are not fundamentally altered,

and

- the total of the amounts successively transferred does not exceed by more than 20% the amount allocated to the beneficiary in the table of the indicative breakdown of estimated eligible costs.

Any other properly substantiated transfer approved by all the *principal contractors* directly concerned shall require prior written approval by the Commission.

In the absence of observations within one month of receipt of the request made by the *coordinator*, the approval of the Commission shall be deemed to have been given.

Each *principal contractor* shall be authorised to transfer between categories of costs the budget provided for in the table of the indicative breakdown of estimated *eligible costs*, in compliance with the first and second subparagraphs. However, he shall not be required to obtain the agreement of the other *principal contractors*.

Article 18 - Direct costs

1. Personnel

With regard to personnel costs,

- (a) Personnel costs include only the administrative, management and coordination costs for the *project* and the preparation of reports.

Only the costs of the actual hours worked on the *project* by personnel: (i) directly hired by the *participant* in accordance with his national legislation, (ii) directly and principally responsible for the management and coordination of the *project*, and (iii) remunerated in accordance with the normal practices of the *participant*, provided that these are regarded as acceptable by the Commission, may be charged to the contract. They shall not include costs related to research work by the abovementioned personnel. The costs of unskilled personnel, administrative personnel and secretarial personnel not charged as direct costs pursuant to this article shall be deemed to be covered by the contribution to overheads provided for in Article 19 of this Annex.

All the working time charged to the contract must be recorded throughout the *duration of the project*, or, in the case of the *coordinator*, within a maximum period of two months from the end of *the duration of the project*, and be certified at least once a month by the person in charge of the work or by the duly authorised financial officer of the *participant*.

- (b) Personnel costs shall comprise:
- the actual costs (gross remuneration and related charges),
 - average employment costs, where these correspond to the normal practices of the *participant* concerned, provided that such costs do not differ significantly from the actual costs and that such practices are regarded as being acceptable by the Commission.

2. Subcontracting

With the exception of costs charged to the contract pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article, the actual costs of *subcontracts* may be charged to the contract if:

- they are incurred in compliance with the conditions set out in Article 6 of this Annex,
- the *subcontracts* are awarded and concluded in accordance with the usual procedures of the *participants*,
- they are in accordance with market prices,

and

- the copies, certified by the *participants* concerned, of relevant invoices are attached to the corresponding cost statements.

3. Travel and subsistence

- (a) Actual travel and related subsistence costs for personnel working on the *project* in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article may be charged to the contract.

The prior agreement of the Commission shall be required for any destination outside the territory of the Member States, the *Associated States* or a third country where a *participant* is established, unless such a destination is provided for in Annex I.

In the absence of observations within one month of receipt of the request made by the *coordinator*, the Commission's approval shall be deemed to have been given.

Travel and subsistence costs shall be established on the basis of the usual rules of the *participant*.

Such costs may include:

- the costs of attendance at meetings of some or all *participants*,
 - travel and subsistence costs relating to visits to other *participants* in the *project*, meetings organised with the participants, and short-term exchanges of personnel (not exceeding three months) between *participants*.
- (b) Travel and subsistence costs relating to visits to *participants* or meetings organised with *participants* by experts invited by the *coordinator* may be charged to the *project* by the *coordinator*.

The prior agreement of the Commission shall be required for any expert from a territory outside the Member States, the *Associated States* or a *third country* where a *participant* is established (that agreement shall be deemed to have been granted if the journey was mentioned in Annex I).

4. Computing

Computing costs, including the costs resulting from the use of computer services and media at the disposal of *participants*, may be charged to the contract. They must be substantiated in accordance with the rules applicable to the *participants*.

5. Other specific costs

- (a) The costs relating to the following ancillary services may be charged to the *project* if they concern the coordination of the research associated with the *project*:
- costs relating to supply, and to preparation and selection work, e.g. in the event of exchange of reference materials and products between *participants*,

- the costs of organising meetings of some or all *participants*, but excluding personnel cost charged in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, travel and subsistence costs charged in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article and overheads charged in accordance with Article 19 of this Annex,
 - the cost of publications, including newsheets, intended to disseminate, whatever the medium, including the Internet, information concerning the work carried out in the framework of the *project*,
 - direct costs related to the setting up of financial guarantees at the request of the Commission.
- (b) Other specific actual costs not coming into any of the categories of eligible costs indicated in paragraphs 1 to 5(a) of this Article and in Article 19 of this Annex shall only be eligible subject to prior written approval by the Commission unless they are already provided for in Annex I to this contract.

In the absence of observations within one month of receipt of the request made by the *coordinator*, the Commission's approval shall be deemed to have been given.

Article 19 - Indirect costs

A flat-rate amount of 20% of the direct costs, but excluding subcontracting costs, may be charged as overheads related to the carrying out of the work specified in the *project*. Such overheads are intended to include *inter alia* the costs of non-specialist personnel, administrative personnel and secretarial personnel not charged as direct costs pursuant to Article 18 of this Annex, the depreciation of buildings and equipment, water, electricity, telecommunications and postal charges, and office supplies.

Article 20 - Justification of costs

Eligible costs shall be reimbursed where they are justified by the *participant*.

To this end, the *participant* shall maintain, on a regular basis and in accordance with the normal accounting conventions of the State in which he is established, the accounts for the *project* and appropriate documentation to support and justify in particular the costs and time reported in his cost statements.

This documentation must be precise, complete and effective.

PART D : AUDITING

Article 21 - Financial audit

1. The Commission, or any representative authorised by it, may initiate an audit in respect of a *participant* at any time during the contract and up to five years after each payment of the Community contribution, as referred to in Article 3(1), first subparagraph, of this Annex.

The audit procedure in respect of a *principal contractor* shall be deemed to be initiated on the date of receipt of the relevant registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt sent by the Commission to the *principal contractor* concerned.

In the case of an auditing procedure in respect of a *member*, the *principal contractor* concerned shall have a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of the letter from the Commission to send the letter relating thereto to the *member* concerned.

The audit procedure in respect of a *member* shall be deemed to start on the date of receipt of a registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt from the Commission sent by the *principal contractor* concerned to the *member* concerned.

The audit procedure shall be carried out on a confidential basis.

2. The Commission or any authorised representative may have access, at any reasonable time, in particular to the personnel of the *participant* connected with the *project*, the documentation referred to in Article 20 of this Annex, computer records and equipment that it considers relevant. In this connection, it may request that data be handed over to it in an appropriate form in order, for instance, to ascertain the eligibility of the costs.

The Commission shall take appropriate steps to ensure that its authorised representatives treat confidentially the data to which they have access or which have been provided to them.

3. On the basis of the findings made during the financial audit in respect of a *principal contractor*, a provisional report shall be drawn up. It shall be sent by the Commission to the *principal contractor* concerned, who may make observations thereon within one month of receiving it.

The final report shall be sent to the *principal contractor* concerned. The latter may communicate his observations to the Commission within a month of receiving it. The Commission may decide not to take into account observations conveyed after that deadline.

Where findings are established during a financial audit in respect of a *member*, the *principal contractor* concerned shall have a maximum period of 15 days to send the *member* concerned, by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt, the provisional report drawn up by the Commission.

The former shall have a maximum period of one month from the date of receipt thereof to transmit observations to the *principal contractor* concerned by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt.

The *principal contractor* concerned shall then have a maximum period of 15 days to transmit to the Commission, by registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt, the observations of the *member* concerned.

The procedure and time-limits indicated in paragraph 3, third, fourth and fifth subparagraphs, of this Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the final report from the Commission in the case of a financial audit in respect of a *member*.

The Commission may decide not to take into account observations conveyed after the deadlines.

4. On the basis of the conclusions of the audit, the Commission shall take all appropriate measures which it considers necessary, including the issuing of a recovery order regarding all or part of the payments made by it. The recovery order shall be addressed to the *principal contractor* concerned or involved in the case of financial audit in respect of one of his *members*.
5. The Court of Auditors may verify the use made of the Community's financial contribution in the framework of this contract, on the basis of its own rules.

Article 22 - Technical verification of the *project*

1. The Commission, or any representative authorised by it, may initiate a technical verification in respect of a *participant* up to the *contract completion date* in order to verify that the *project* is being or has been carried out in accordance with the conditions indicated by the *principal contractor* or his *members*.

The verification procedure in respect of a *principal contractor* shall be deemed to be initiated on the date of receipt of the relevant registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt sent by the Commission to the *principal contractor* concerned.

In the case of a technical verification procedure in respect of a *member*, the *principal contractor* concerned shall have a period of 15 days to transmit the letter relating to it to the *member* from the date of the letter from the Commission.

The technical verification procedure in respect of the *member* shall be deemed to start on the date of receipt of the registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt concerning it from the *principal contractor* concerned.

The technical verification procedure shall be carried out on a confidential basis.

2. The Commission or any authorised representative may have access to the locations and premises where the work is being carried out, and to any document concerning the work, and may request the submission of documents under the same conditions as those set out in Article 21(2) of this Annex.

Prior to the carrying out of the technical verification, the Commission shall communicate to the *principal contractors* and the *members* through the *principal contractor* concerned the identity of the authorised representatives who are intended to perform the verification. It shall take account of any objection on the part of *participants* based on *legitimate interests*.

3. *Participants* shall provide appropriate assistance to the Commission or its authorised representatives.
4. A report on the technical verification of the *project* shall be sent to the *principal contractor* concerned. The latter may communicate his observations to the Commission within one month of receiving it.

In the case of a technical verification procedure in respect of a *member*, the *principal contractor* concerned shall have a period of 15 days to transmit to the *member* concerned the report on the technical verification of the *project* from the Commission. The *member* may, through the *principal contractor* concerned, communicate his observations to the Commission within one month of receipt of the report.

The Commission may decide not to take into account observations conveyed after these deadlines.

PART E-1
COST STATEMENT SUMMARY (euro/currency)

for the period from _____ to _____ (reporting period No__)

Project Title:

Contract No:

Name of *principal contractor/member* ¹

Currency (euro/currency) in which account is kept ³: _____ Exchange/conversion rate in euro ²: _____

Contact person for this cost statement ⁴ :	Telephone:
E-mail address:	Fax:

Categories of eligible costs	Amount for the period ⁵	
	Euro ³	Currency ³
Direct Costs		
1. Personnel		
2. Subcontracting		
3. Travel and subsistence		
4. Computing		
5. Other specific costs		
.		
.		
.		
Subtotal		
Indirect Costs		
6. Overheads		
Adjustments		
7. Adjustments to costs previously reported ⁶		
Total		
% ⁷ Community's financial contribution: _____		

Principal Contractor/member's certificate⁸

We certify that

- the above costs are derived from the resources employed which were necessary for the work under the contract,
- such costs have been incurred and fall within the definition of eligible costs specified in the contract,
- any necessary permissions of the Commission have been obtained, and
- full supporting documentation to justify the costs hereby declared, including time sheets as referred to in Article 18(1)(a), subparagraph 3, of Annex II to the contract, is available for audit by the Commission and its authorised representatives or the Court of Auditors and reflects the costs actually incurred.

We certify that any necessary adjustments, for any reason, to costs reported in previous cost statements have been incorporated in the above statement⁹.

Date:	Date:
Name of person in charge of the work:	Name of duly authorised responsible Financial Officer:
Signature of person in charge of the work:	Signature of duly authorised responsible Financial Officer:

1. Delete as necessary.
2. The cost statement must be drawn up in euro and in the currency used in the accounting of the *principal contractor/member* . Except where a special condition applies, the exchange/conversion rate is that indicated in Article 4(2)(a) of Annex II to the contract. See website europa.eu.int/comm/dg19/inforeuro/en/index.htm
3. One of the persons whose signatures must appear on this form.
4. Net amounts only. Do not include amounts of any indirect taxes, sales taxes or customs duties. Separate details are required for some of the categories specified in the pages which follow.
5. Not applicable for the first cost statement. Any necessary adjustments, for example to reflect actual costs instead of budgeted costs, must be made in subsequent statements. Details and reasons for any adjustments must be provided.
6. Insert the percentage of the Community's financial contribution. See Article 3(2) of the contract.
7. The person in charge of the work and the duly authorised responsible Financial Officer of the *principal contractor/member* must sign the certificate.

COST STATEMENT: Details by Category (euro/currency)

(reporting period No__)

for the period from _____

to _____

Project Title :

Contract No:

Name of *principal contractor/member*¹:

to (Name of *principal contractor*)

Currency (euro/currency) in which account is kept:

PERSONNEL

Name ²	Title (Mr / Ms)	Category ³	Status ⁴ (P / T / [I])	Occupation ⁵ (FT / PT)	Number ⁶ of person-hours	Hourly Personnel rate ⁷	Personnel Amount
					A	B	Col. A x B
Total							

TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE

Name ²	Destination (City, Country)	Dates	Purpose of Travel	Amount ⁸

COMPUTING⁹

Type of computing costs	Description	Amount ⁸

1. Delete as necessary.
2. Full names of individuals working on the *project* whose costs are declared.
3. Clearly identifiable to *participant*'s personnel records.
4. Insert "P" for permanent employees, "T" for temporary employees and "I" for in house consultants. [Clearly identifiable to *participant*'s personal records.
5. Indicate the occupation status of the individuals, by inserting "FT" for full-timee and "PT" for part-time occupation. [Clearly identifiable to *participant*'s personnel records].
6. Time declared must be clearly identifiable to *participant*'s time maintenance [and personnel records]
7. The personnel rate comprises the elements specified in Article 8(1) of Annex II to the contract. It must be consistent with the units in column A.
8. Net amount only. Do not include any indirect taxes, sales taxes or customs duties.
9. See Article 18(4) of Annex II to the contract.

SUBCONTRACTING¹⁰

Subcontractors	Description	Amount ⁸

OTHER SPECIFIC COSTS¹¹

Description and supplier name if applicable	Amount ⁸

10. Attached certified copies of invoices with reference to the *subcontract* .

11. See Article 18(5) of Annex II to the contract.

PART E-2/A - INTEGRATED COST STATEMENT IN EURO TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE COORDINATOR FOR THE PRINCIPAL CONTRACTORS¹

For the period from ² to ³

Name of *coordinator*

<i>Principal contractors</i>	Costs							
	Costs	Personnel	Sub-contracting	Travel and subsistence expenses	Computer costs	Other specific costs	Overheads	TOTAL
<i>Coordinator</i>	D ⁴							
	A ⁵							
<i>Principal contractor (name)</i>	D							
	A							
<i>Principal contractor (name)</i>	D							
	A							
<i>Principal contractor (name)</i>	D							
	A							
TOTAL								

1. To be completed by *the coordinator* as from the second period.
2. Insert the *project commencement date*.
3. Insert the end of the last period concerned by the integrated cost statement.
4. Costs reported for the period subject to acceptance by the Commission and for earlier periods.
5. Costs accepted by the Commission for the earlier period(s).

PART E-2/B - INTEGRATED COST STATEMENT IN EURO TO BE SUBMITTED BY EACH *PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR FOR HIS MEMBERS*¹

For the period from ² to ³

Name of principal contractor

<i>Participants</i>	Costs							
	Costs	Personnel	Sub-contracting	Travel and subsistence expenses	Computer costs	Other specific costs	Overheads	TOTAL
<i>Principal contractor</i>	D ⁴							
	A ⁵							
<i>Member (name)</i>	D							
	A							
<i>Member (name)</i>	D							
	A							
<i>Member (name)</i>	D							
	A							
TOTAL								

1. To be completed by each principal contractor for all his members as from the second period.
2. Insert the *project commencement date*.
3. Insert the end of the last period concerned by the integrated cost statement.
4. Cost reported for the period subject to acceptance by the Commission and for earlier periods.
5. Cost accepted by the Commission for the earlier period(s).

PART E-3 - SUMMARY STATEMENT OF AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED TO PRINCIPAL CONTRACTORS BY THE *COORDINATOR* (euro)¹

Title of project

Contract No:

<i>Name of principal contractors</i>	Advance:		Period:		Period:		Period:		Final period ² :		Other ³ :		Total	Comments
	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date		
TOTALS														
Amounts paid by the Commission														

1. To be completed by the *coordinator*.
 2. See Article 2(1)(f)(2) of Annex II to this contract.
 3. Any other amount transferred to a principal *contractor* during the *duration of the project*.

PART F: MODEL MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT (SEVERAL MEMBERS)

**MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT No [insert number]
(No of basic contract)**

A membership agreement is hereby concluded between:

of the one part,

[Name of principal contractor] [acronym] (“the principal coordinator”), established in [name of State],

and

[Name of member] [acronym], established in [name of State],
[Name of member] [acronym], established in [name of State],
[Name of member] [acronym], established in [name of State],

(collectively “the members”)

of the other part,

(collectively “the parties”) represented by their legal/statutory/authorised representatives.

In the framework of [name of the RDT/RTDT specific programme], the principal contractor concluded contract No [insert the number of the contract] on [date] to realise a thematic network entitled [title of the project], (“the basic contract”).

The Basic contract is incorporated in this membership agreement as Annex A.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 - Subject matter of the membership agreement

The purpose of this membership agreement is to enable members to contribute, together with the principal contractor, to the implementation of the provisions of the basic contract in accordance with the conditions provided for in this agreement.

Article 2 - Conditions

The parties to the membership agreement shall be bound *mutatis mutandis* by the conditions of the basic contract and its Annexes which are an integral part of the agreement (Annex A), with the exception of those provisions of the basic contract which concern only the principal contractor.

Article 3 - Scope

1. The members shall perform their share of the work pursuant to this membership agreement in compliance with the requirements of Annex I to the basic contract. The members shall cooperate with the principal contractor in order to ensure the efficient management of the project. They shall, in particular, provide the principal contractor with the information that the project manager requires in order to carry out his duties.
2. The work carried out by the project members may be the subject of a technical audit in accordance with Article 22 of Annex II to the basic contract.

Article 4 - Payments

1. The Community's financial contribution shall be paid to the members by the principal contractor without undue delay after receipt of the Community's financial contribution, in accordance with Article 3 of the basic contract and the related conditions.
2. Costs shall be charged by the project members in accordance with Articles 17 to 20 of Annex II to the basic contract and the indications in the indicative tables of estimated eligible costs which follow the signatures to the basic contract and this membership agreement. Those costs may be the subject of a financial audit by the Commission or the Court of Auditors in accordance with Article 21 of Annex II to the basic contract.

Article 5 - Entry into force of the membership agreement

Subject to signature of the membership agreement on behalf of all the parties within three months of the date of commencement of the basic contract, the agreement shall enter into force retroactively from the date of commencement of the basic contract. If the membership agreement is signed on behalf of all the parties three months after the date of commencement of the basic contract, the agreement shall enter into force from the date of the last signature.

Article 6 - Completion, expiry or termination of the agreement

1. The work to be performed under the membership agreement shall be deemed to be completed on the date of approval by the Commission of the tasks to be performed by the members under Annex I to the basic contract.
2. The membership agreement shall automatically terminate on the date of completion or termination of the basic contract.
3. The principal contractor may, with the written agreement of the Commission, or shall, at the written request of the Commission, immediately terminate the participation of a member if he fails to meet in full his contractual obligations pursuant to the basic contract or this membership agreement. The principal contractor shall determine, in a letter sent to the member, the period of notice, which shall not exceed one month from the date of receipt of that letter.
4. Each party may terminate this agreement subject to two months' written notice.

Article 7 - Applicable law and jurisdiction

1. The law of *[name of the country indicated in the basic contract]* shall govern this membership agreement.
2. Jurisdiction *[to be completed by the parties]*.

Article 8 - Amendments

The membership agreement may be amended, with the prior written authorisation of the Commission, only by written agreement between the authorised representatives of the parties.

Article 9 - Final provisions

1. The following Annexes are an integral part of this agreement:

Annex A: Basic contract
[.....to be inserted.....]
2. The agreement shall be signed by the parties in *[insert number]* copies in *[insert language]* and only that language version shall be authentic.

For the parties	Signature and title	Date
1. <i>Name of principal contractor (written out in full)</i>
2. <i>Name of member (written out in full)</i>
3. <i>Name of member (written out in full)</i>
4. <i>Name of member (written out in full)</i>

PART F: MODEL MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT (ONE MEMBER)

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT No [insert number]

(No of basic contract)

A membership agreement is hereby concluded between:

of the one part,

[Name of principal contractor] [acronym] (“the principal coordinator”), established in [name of State],

and

[Name of member] [acronym], established in [name of State],

(“the member”)

of the other part,

(collectively “the parties”) represented by their legal/statutory/authorised representatives.

In the framework of [name of the RDT/RTDT specific programme], the principal contractor concluded contract No [insert the number of the contract] on [date] to realise a thematic network entitled [title of the project], (“the basic contract”).

The basic contract is incorporated in this membership agreement as Annex A.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 - Subject matter of the membership agreement

The purpose of this membership agreement is to enable the member to contribute, together with the principal contractor, to the implementation of the provisions of the basic contract in accordance with the conditions provided for in this agreement.

Article 2 - Conditions

The parties to the membership agreement shall be bound *mutatis mutandis* by the conditions of the basic contract and its Annexes which are an integral part of the agreement (Annex A), with the exception of those provisions of the basic contract which concern only the principal contractor.

Article 3 - Scope

1. The member shall perform his share of the work pursuant to this membership agreement in compliance with the requirements of Annex I to the basic contract. The member shall cooperate with the principal contractor in order to ensure the efficient management of the project. He shall, in particular, provide the principal contractor with the information that the project manager requires in order to carry out his duties.
2. The work carried out by the project member may be the subject of a technical audit in accordance with Article 22 of Annex II to the basic contract.

Article 4 - Payments

1. The Community's financial contribution shall be paid to the member by the principal contractor without undue delay after receipt of the Community's financial contribution, in accordance with Article 3 of the basic contract and the related conditions.
2. Costs shall be charged by the project member in accordance with Articles 17 to 20 of Annex II to the basic contract and the indications in the indicative table of estimated eligible costs which follow the signatures to the basic contract and this membership agreement. Those costs may be the subject of a financial audit by the Commission or the Court of Auditors in accordance with Article 21 of Annex II to the basic contract.

Article 5 - Entry into force of the membership agreement

Subject to signature of the membership agreement on behalf of all the parties within three months of the date of commencement of the basic contract, the agreement shall enter into force retroactively from the date of commencement of the basic contract. If the membership agreement is signed on behalf of all the parties three months after the date of commencement of the basic contract, the agreement shall enter into force from the date of the last signature.

Article 6 - Completion, expiry or termination of the agreement

1. The work to be performed under the membership agreement shall be deemed to be completed on the date of approval by the Commission of the tasks to be performed by the member under Annex I to the basic contract.
2. The membership agreement shall automatically terminate on the date of completion or termination of the basic contract.
3. The principal contractor may, with the written agreement of the Commission, or shall, at the written request of the Commission, immediately terminate the participation of the member if he fails to meet in full his contractual obligations pursuant to the basic contract or this membership agreement. The principal contractor shall determine, in a letter sent to the member, the period of notice, which shall not exceed one month from the date of receipt of that letter.
4. Each party may terminate this agreement subject to two months' written notice.

Article 7 - Applicable law and jurisdiction

1. The law of [*name of the country indicated in the basic contract*] shall govern this membership agreement.
2. Jurisdiction [*to be completed by the parties*].

Article 8 - Amendments

The membership agreement may be amended, with the prior written authorisation of the Commission, only by written agreement between the authorised representatives of the parties.

Article 9 - Final provisions

1. The following Annexes are an integral part of this agreement:

Annex A: Basic contract
[.....*to be inserted*.....]
2. The agreement shall be signed by the parties in [*insert number*] copies in [*insert language*] and only that language version shall be authentic.

For the parties	Signature and title	Date
1. <i>Name of principal contractor</i> <i>(written out in full)</i>
2. <i>Name of member</i> <i>(written out in full)</i>