Workshop on

State Aid Policy and Practice in The European Community:

An Integrative and Interactive Approach

20 –21 March 2003, Maastricht (NL)

workshop venue:
Green conference room (1.45)
Onze Lieve vrouweplein 22
Maastricht (NL)

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 20 March 2003

09.00 - 09.15 Welcome and Introduction
Dr Phedon Nicolaides, Professor of Economics, Unit on EC Policies and the Internal Market, EIPA, Maastricht (NL)

Session 1: Principles and Procedures

09.15 – 09.30 A Schematic Overview of EC State Aid Policy
Phedon Nicolaides

09.30 – 10.30 EC Rules on State Aid: The Meaning of Aid, Compatibility with the Common Market, Possible Exceptions and the "De Minimis" Rule
Dr Robert Hankin, Unit Head, Directorate A (State Aid A-3), Directorate-General for Competition, European Commission, Brussels (B) [invited]

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 Procedures for Notifying Aid, Investigations and Third-Party Rights: The Procedural Regulation and Case Study
Robert Hankin

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

Session 2: Horizontal Themes

14.00 – 15.30 Operating Aid, Fiscal Aid and the Private-Investor Principle - Principles and Case Studies
Phedon Nicolaides

15.30 – 16.00  Coffee break

Session 3: Guidelines

16.00 – 16.45  Employment and Training Aid: Regulations and Case Study  
Mr Melvin Könings, Senior policy officer DG Energie, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Hague (NL), presently on seconded at the European Commission, DG Commission [invited]

16.45 – 17.30  Environmental Aid: Guidelines and Case Study  
Mr Melvin Könings

17.30  Reception in EIPA’s restaurant

Friday, 21 March 2003

Session 4: Guidelines, continuation

09.00 – 09.45  Aid for Regional Development and Aid to Large Regional Projects: Guidelines and Case Study  
Phedon Nicolaides

09.45 – 10.30  Aid for Research and Technological Development: Framework and Case Study  
Phedon Nicolaides

10.30 – 11.00  Coffee break

Session 5: Sharing National Experiences

11.00 – 12.15  Working Groups: Comparing National Experiences  
Cases provided by participants

12.15 – 13.00  Plenary Session: Discussing National Experiences  
Reports by the Working Groups’ rapporteur

13.00 – 14.30  Lunch

Session 6: Learning from Each Other: Benchmarking and Best Practice

Panel Presentations and Discussion: Analysing National Experiences  
- Presentation by national officials

14.30 – 15.00  The Granting of State Aid: Constraints and Perspectives  
Michael Leahy, Planning Department, Enterprise Ireland, Dublin (IRL)

15.00 – 15.45  Influencing Community State Aid Policy  
Mariolin Muijlwijk, Senior Legal Adviser Dutch Ministry of Transport
Session 7: Policy Implementation beyond the Boundaries of EC Rules

15.45 – 16.45  Effective Implementation Capacity and the Economics of State Aid
               Phedon Nicolaides

16.45 - 17.00  Evaluation of the Workshop

Project Leader
Dr Phedon Nicolaides
Professor of Economics and the Internal Market
Tel.: +31 43 3296 234
Fax: +31 43 3296296
E-mail: p.nicolaides@eipa-nl.com

Programme Organiser
Ms Sonja van de Pol
Tel.: +31 43 3296 371
Fax: +31 43 3296296
E-mail: s.vandepol@eipa-nl.com