



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

The Director-General

Brussels, 4 February 2009  
EMPL F3 - VDP/as  
SYB 2008A7923-2009AA233

Mr Giampaolo Paiardi  
The Secretary General  
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Via Nazionale 243  
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**Subject: Call for proposals VP/2008/017 — Evaluation Committee**

Dear Mr Paiardi,

We refer to your letter to President Barroso, dated 12 November 2008, concerning the above call for proposals and the Evaluation Committee's decisions.

Having personally examined the file on the basis of your letter, I must recognise that the formulation used by the Evaluation Committee is not appropriate. However, regardless of the wording used, I have concluded that the final result of the selection is valid.

Taking into account the remaining budget available, the Evaluation Committee could only select four out of the seventeen proposals submitted to it. Your proposal was not approved mainly because there are already several research and data collection actions underway, including in the framework of a proposal approved previously. Those actions already give us a perspective on the laws and practices of financial participation in the European Union, as well as on the benefits and obstacles to future development. The added value of a new project of the same type was considered by the Evaluation Committee as being very low. I recall the fact that the added value of a proposed action is a crucial evaluation criteria, alongside the budgetary constraints to be respected in the framework of the call for proposals.

I would like to inform you that a new call for proposals will be published shortly under the same budget line and I would encourage you to submit a proposal. I would suggest that you contact Mr Jean-François Lebrun, Head of Unit for Working Conditions, Adaptation to Change (32-2 299.22.74) who, without prejudicing the outcome of future selection processes, might be able to give you some clarification regarding the added value required in a project on financial participation, a theme which remains very relevant despite the current crisis.

I regret the unfortunate wording used by the Evaluation Committee and I hope that this letter contributes to clarify the situation and helps you to continue to work at European level.

Yours sincerely,



Nikolaus G. van der Pas