

TWINNING NEWS No 42

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Twinning: Application of new per diem rates for first half of 2010

We would like to confirm the most recent adjustment of the maximum per diem rates paid to experts on mission undertaken in the course of an EC funded contract as published by Directorate General AIDCO at the following website address:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/per_diems/index_en.htm.

Please find herewith for your easy reference the list with the adjusted rates specifically compiled for all new Member States, Candidate Countries and Potential Candidate Countries which may be beneficiaries of Twinning assistance.

It should be noted that the specific per diem rates as published by AIDCO represent a maximum amount. Lower per diem fees may be applied, in particular for activities outside major cities.

For Twinning projects in Turkey, the arrangement announced in the letter of Mr. Meganck of 14 November 2006 remains valid: the per diem for Istanbul will continue to apply to all Twinning projects in Turkey rather than the per diem for Ankara.

As shown in the attached revision table, this gives 161€ as per diem for Turkish twinning projects rather than 121€ as adjusted per diem for Ankara.

Although the table with the new per diem bears the date of 1st January 2010 which has been agreed as the formal starting date for the application of such new rates, it is possible to apply them as of 15th December 2009.

The common Twinning manual in versions of 2005, 2007 and 2009 clearly provides under the same section 5.6.2 that the date of the mission determines the rate applicable and the relevant provision even clarifies that the rate can therefore vary over the lifetime of a Twinning project.

Please remember however that the subsistence allowance of Resident Twinning Advisors mentioned in twinning contracts notified after 1 January 2004 should not at this stage be affected by the update of the AIDCO per diem rates. Indeed the common Twinning manual (in versions of 2005, 2007 and 2009 respectively) provides in the already mentioned section 5.6.2 that the applicable rate of the subsistence allowance is fixed at the time of the signature of the Twinning contract for its entire duration. The subsistence allowance of RTA's is therefore not subject to revision during the lifetime of the project.

	Previous per diem rate in €	New per diem rate in € as of 01/01/2010
New MS		
Bulgaria	227	227
Cyprus	238	238
Czech Republic	230	230
Estonia	181	<u>L</u> 181
Hungary	222	222
Latvia	211	211
Lithuania	183	183
Malta	205	205
Poland	217	217
Romania	222	222
Slovak Republic	205	205
Slovenia	180	180

Candidate Countries		
Croatia	235	222
Turkey	158 (ref. letter of 14.11.2006)	161 (ref. letter of 14.11.2006)
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	169	160

Western Balkans		
Albania	230	217
Bosnia -Herzegovina	124	143
Serbia	248	234
Montenegro	186	188
Kosovo*	248	234

* under UNSCR 1244

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