

2.11 - Near Neighbours

2.11.1 - Introduction	1
2.11.2 - Provision for COST "Near Neighbours"	2

2.11.1 - Introduction

At its 160th meeting (1/2 December 2004), the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) approved support from the involvement of researchers from institutions in the Balkans and Europe's "Near Neighbours" not already members of COST.

Countries qualifying for support:

Balkans

- Albania
- Bosnia and Herzegovina

"Eastern Neighbours"

- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Georgia
- Moldova
- Russian Federation
- Ukraine

"Mediterranean Basin" Neighbours

- Algeria
- Egypt
- Lebanon
- Lybia
- Morocco
- The Palestinian Authority
- Syria
- Tunisia

Up to 100.000 € per annum has been set aside for the reimbursement of researchers from CSO approved participating institutions in COST Actions to attend Management Committee (MC) and Working Group/Workshop Meetings of such Actions. This support is available on a "first come, first

served basis". Actions budget will be "credited" by the appropriate amounts from central funds held by the COST Office.

2.11.2 - Provision for COST "Near Neighbours"

The COST Office can provide support to scientists from approved non-COST participating institutions for the participation in COST meetings. The reimbursement is limited to one participant per Institution and one COST meeting per year.

The procedure is the same as for other participants in COST meetings.

The COST Office will provide regular information about the usage of the allocated funds which are limited to a total of € 100.000. If the dedicated funding is used up it will be still possible to support the participation from Near Neighbour countries, however in this case the funding must come from the COST Actions budget.

In exceptional cases the COST Office may consider support for STSMs from Near Neighbour countries to visit institutions in COST countries within an Action based on the advice of the MC.

Also in exceptional cases the COST Office may consider support for COST meetings in a Near Neighbour country in order to promote COST.