

Philippe Maystadt
President

Luxembourg, 1 July 2003

Mr Ian Kinniburgh
Director
Development Policy and Planning Office
DESA - Room DC1-2170
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017
U.S.A.

Dear Mr Kinniburgh,

Under-Secretary-General Nitin Desai has asked me in a letter dated 16 June to provide you with information on the activities undertaken or programmed by the European Investment Bank to alleviate the special economic problems of the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans. I gladly comply with this request.

Concerning EIB's activities and strategies with regard to the Western-Balkan Countries (Albania; Bosnia Herzegovina; Croatia; Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; State Union of Serbia & Montenegro) I have pleasure in enclosing a document recently submitted to our Board of Directors. As you will see, in the years 2000-2002 the volume of loans EIB has signed in these countries amounts to EUR 898 m, most of this long-term lending is for infrastructure.

For EIB activities in EU Acceding and Accession Countries the same regulations already apply as for EU-Member States. The loan volumes for the relevant Danube-riparian states for 1998-2002 are given below. For Moldova and Ukraine EIB has no lending mandate.

Lending 1998-2002 (in EUR m) :

Hungary	1783
Slovakia	722
Romania	2107
Bulgaria	703



As you will notice, EIB is quite active in the region of South-Eastern Europe. We plan to further expand our activities with an increased emphasis on technical assistance, municipal infrastructure and private sector investments. If you need additional information for the planned report to the General Assembly please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe Maystadt

Encl.