

Commission decisions on the Lisbon Growth and Jobs Strategy

The European Commission has adopted a package to help implement the European Economic Recovery Plan ([see IP/08/1771](#)) and reinforce the Lisbon Growth and Jobs Strategy. The adoption of country chapters assessing Member States' progress in implementing the Lisbon Strategy will take place in the New Year.

The Commission decided that the country chapters would be finalised and published in the New Year, to allow Member States time to adapt to implementation of the Recovery Plan approved by EU leaders at the European Council.

Member States will submit updated Stability or Convergence Programmes by the turn of the year. Taking those programmes into account in the assessments in the country chapters is the best way of addressing short-term and longer-term challenges coherently and of ensuring synergy between the Recovery Plan and the Lisbon Strategy.

Meanwhile, adopted today were:

- a report on the implementation and future priorities of the Community Lisbon Programme. This will be made available in full via: http://ec.europa.eu/growthandjobs/index_en.htm
- a review of the European Globalisation Fund (See [IP/08/1985](#)), to ensure it maximises its potential for helping people back into the labour market;
- a Communication 'New Skills for New Jobs' - a first assessment of skills and jobs requirements in the EU up to 2020. (See [IP/08/1984](#))
- A communication explaining how some of € 347 billion available over the period 2007-13 for Cohesion Policy can be used by the Member States to deliver a short term stimulus to the economy while tackling long-term challenges such as improving competitiveness and adapting to a low-carbon economy.(See [IP/08/1983](#));
- a Communication that sets out both immediate priorities for cooperation in education and training for the years 2009-2010 and long term strategic challenges. (See [IP/08/1986](#))
- a Communication on the External Aspects of the Lisbon Strategy, building on the Recovery Plan with proposals on how the Union can best take advantage of current and future opportunities to improve international regulatory cooperation and ensure fair and open access to those third country markets that matter most to EU businesses. (See [IP/08/1989](#))
- One year on from the Single Market Review of November 2007 (see [IP/07/1728](#)) a progress report by Commission staff outlining a series of measures, either already taken or in the pipeline and fully in line with the European Recovery Plan. The report is accompanied by an economic analysis of market monitoring (see [IP/08/2000](#)).