

## **New Developments for Lisbon Strategy – Enhancing Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

Maria João Rodrigues  
(2002.05.30)

- Lisbon Strategy is being developed as a comprehensive and coherent strategy for economic and social modernisation. Therefore it is important to keep its political balance and to achieve concrete outcomes in all its policy fields (information society, R&D, enterprise, innovation, economic reforms, education, employment, social protection and social inclusion, see reports on Lisbon Strategy in annex).
- Nevertheless a particular focus can be emphasized in each Spring European Council. Stockholm in 2001 emphasized sustainable development and social policies and Barcelona in 2002 emphasized economic reforms.
- **Next Spring European Council could put the focus on entrepreneurship and innovation** as key policies for enhancing competitiveness with social cohesion. Europe is lagging behind USA in this field and this structural change is crucial to underpin economic recovery (see The Reports on Competitiveness, European Commission, 2001, 2002). This focus for 2002 can get a broad political support from the different actors of Lisbon Strategy.
- Moreover, innovation policy could be further developed at both European and national levels taking into account the ongoing experience of open method of coordination in the different policy fields (see paper in annex). It seems that there are political conditions to **invite member States to prepare their National Plans for Entrepreneurship and Innovation** according to some common objectives to be agreed at European level. (see a proposal in annex, as well a comparative table of Member States policies and an example of national plans for innovation).